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MEDIA VIEW NEW USSR, PACT MBFR PROPOSALS

Based on Simple Considerations

LD182341 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 18 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program, presented by political observer Aleksandr Kaverznev]

[Text] You have probably already heard or read that at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe yesterday, the Soviet Union, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia submitted fresh proposals. At a press conference in Moscow today, Comrade Komplektov, USSR deputy foreign minister, and Colonel General Chervov, head of a directorate of the general staff, elucidated for journalists, including foreign journalists, the essence of these proposals.

The proposals are based on very simple considerations. At the Vienna talks, which have been in progress for about 10 years, everything has revolved around the fruitless discussion, imposed by the Western powers, as to the present numerical troop strength of each side in central Europe. The West has been groundlessly attempting to convince, or rather to prove, that there are allegedly more forces on our side. The socialist states are now proposing: Let us remove this question from the discussion. In the final analysis the important thing is not who possesses what at the present but what will be the case after the reduction. Let this be on either side no more than 900,000 men, including 700,000 land forces on each side; no more than that. Regarding this latter figure mutual understanding has already been achieved at the talks. This approach would be simple and practical. We consider that, let us say, in the course of a year it would be possible to reach final agreement on everything.

Now for the second proposal. If you recall, a few years ago the Soviet Union unilaterally withdrew 20,000 of its servicemen from central Europe. Now on the basis of mutual example we are proposing in the course of a year that a further 20,000 be withdrawn from the composition of our land forces, if the United States withdraws 13,000. In this connection we are in favor of mutually acceptable and adequate verification measures. Finally, after a mutual reduction of forces it would be necessary to freeze the levels of armed forces and armaments of all the direct participants in the talks throughout the time they are being held. The socialist countries consider that this opens up a real possibility to reach accord in Vienna without damage to anybody's security.

As yet it is early to speak of Western reaction. There have only been a few reports of brief NATO comments. A spokesman of the North Atlantic bloc stated in Brussels that the proposals would be thoroughly studied. However, they contain problems that must be first resolved in Vienna. But, to judge by everything, this is a reservation, and probably it was made in order to leave NATO some room for subsequent maneuver.

Moscow TV News Conference

LD181942 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] A news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held in Moscow today devoted to the new peace proposals the socialist countries made at the Vienna MBFR talks. We present for your attention a video recording of this news conference.

[S.A. Kuznetsov] Fsteemed ladies and gentlemen, dear comrades, today's news conference-briefing is devoted to the Vienna MBFR talks. The briefing is being conducted by Viktor Georgiyevich Komplektov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; Colonel General Chervov, head of a department in the USSR Armed Forces General Staff; Vladimir Fedorovich Petrovskiy, member of the Collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and head of the International Organizations Department in the USSR Foreign Ministry; Nikolay Nikolayevich Izvekov, representative of the CPSU Central Committee Department of International Information. Allow me to ask Viktor Georgiyevich Komplektov to speak. Viktor Georgiyevich, please.

[Komplektov] Esteemed leadies and gentlemen, dear comrades. Yesterday, 17 February, in Vienna, the USSR introduced new and important proposals on behalf of the socialist states which are directly participating in the Vienna MBFR talks -- that is, the GDR, the Polish People's Republic and the CSSR -- and on its own behalf, that is the USSR.

As you know, the Vienna talks have been going on for about 10 years now, but no tangible results have been achieved. Of course, it cannot be said that all of these years have gone by in vain, and that no efforts have been made at the talks to achieve progress. There are some general mutual understandings, for example that as a result of reduction there should be a lowering of confrontation in central Europe to equal the collective levels of both sides' armed forces. Nonetheless, the aim of the talks to date has not been achieved. It is well-known why this has happened. Solving the problem has been blocked by hopeless and, mainly, fruitless arguments about who has more or less soldiers in the region of the future reductions. The purpose for which the talks are being held seemed to get lost behind these arguments, and I would like to stress this.

In order to alter the situation which has arisen at the talks, to overcome the artificially created barrier of figures, the socialist states are proposing an approach which is new in principle, simple and practical. It is aimed at achieving real results in Vienna without damaging anyone's security. The essence of this approach is the proposal to reach an understanding on reducing both NATO and Warsaw Treaty armed forces in central Europe to equal collective levels of 900,000 men on each side, independent of differences on the question of how many troops they have now. For this, each side itself would determine the level of reduction of its armed forces from the current existing level, the volume essential for achieving the indicated equal collective ceilings.

In other words, it is important -- and it is precisely toward this that the proposals of the socialist countries are directed -- that as a result of the reductions neither the Warsaw Treaty nor NATO should have more than 900,000 men in their armed forces in central Europe, including more than 700,000 men in ground troops. This is the aim which should be achieved by the participants in the talks, and mutual understanding exists between them regarding this.

The socialist countries are convinced that the simplicity and practicality of such an approach creates the appropriate prerequisites to work out the achievement of an accord quickly, say within 1 year. This also applies to the question of agreeing to mutually acceptable adequate measures to verify the levels of the armed forces left after the reductions.

It is also known that there is a mutual understanding at the talks that the reductions should begin with the Soviet and American troops. Taking this into account, the socialist countries are proposing as an initial, practical step that the USSR's and United States' Armed Forces and armaments in central Europe be reduced on the basis of a mutual example outside the framework of a treaty.

Specifically, within 1 year the Soviet Union would be ready to withdraw another 20,000 ground forces from central Europe, in addition to the 20,000 Soviet servicemen previously withdrawn unilaterally from the GDR's territory, if the United States, for its part, would withdraw 13,000 of its ground forces in the given area during this same period.

The reduction of Soviet and American troops would be implemented by withdrawing troop formations, units and subunits, with their armaments.

Such a step can easily be implemented. Here, it seems, it is enough to have a minimum of mutual understanding. It will be necessary, in particular, to agree on the procedure for observing the withdrawal of Soviet and American troops and armaments. It seems that this should not be a stumbling block.

The proposed reductions of Soviet and American troops and armaments in central Europe on the basis of mutual example would be a substantial measure from the military point of view. They would undoubtedly have a favorable effect on the general atmosphere of the Vienna talks themselves. Finally, it is also important that the implementation of this measure would enable useful practical experience to be accumulated for subsequent and larger reductions of NATO and Warsaw Treaty armed forces.

It is quite natural that in the interval between the preliminary and final reductions of Soviet and American troops, there should be no buildup of troops and weapons, or other actions which would counteract the aims of the talks; that is, lowering the sides' number of armed forces to equal collective levels. For this purpose, the socialist countries propose freezing, through mutual political agreement by the sides, the level of armed forces and armaments of all direct participants in the talks on central Europe.

I would like to stress that a freeze is not an end in itself. Since it would be maintained only up to the attainment of a final agreement -- which we belive could be (?worked out) over 1 year, as we said earlier.

The socialist countries' new initiative undertaken in Vienna is proof of their good-will -- a constructive and realistic approach -- and their readiness to promote in deed the progress of the Vienna talks. They solidify the corresponding provisions of the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty states-participants, which was recently adopted in Prague. These proposals are yet another, and very important, action in the practical efforts they recently undertook on all routes leading to strengthening of the European states' security and to curbing both the nuclear and conventional arms races.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that the socialist countries' new proposals, taking into account the existing degree of mutual understanding at the negotiations, provide a real opportunity for achieving a tangible accord. One thing is essential for this: the political will on the part of all the states participating in the negotiations. We expect the Western partners to take a fully serious and responsible attitude to the socialist states' initiative. Thank you for your attention.

[Kuznetsov] Thank you, Viktor Georgiyevich. We will now answer questions. We already have a few questions. A question from Kozlov, APN political observer, addressed to Colonel General Chervov. Tell us, please, in more detail what significance achieving an accord in Vienna would have from the military point of view.

[Chervov] From the military point of view, achieving an accord in Vienna is determined above all by the special strategic position in central Europe. For several centuries, this region of the world was the arena for numerous military conflicts. It was the region of the fiercest military operations during World Wars I and II. Over 500 divisions participated in the battles in the central European region toward the end of World War II.

The fate of all European people was decided here in central Europe, as was that of World War II as a whole. From the military viewpoint, central Europe is the main region on the European continent now too. Here the states of the two most important military and political alliances, NATO and the Warsaw Pact -- with the most highly developed military-economic base, with significant material reserves and human resources -- confront each other.

Million-strong armies, tens of thousands of tanks, thousands of aircraft, a huge number of nuclear arms carriers, and many thousands of pieces of nuclear arms are concentrated here.

For example, on the territory of the FRG alone, the NATO countries have joint armed forces of more than 800,000 men, about 10,000 tanks -- and these are only the ones in the combat complement -- over 7,000 munition pieces of ammunition, more than 2,000 tons of chemical weapons, and huge quantities of stored reserves of various other armaments and combat equipment.

The two alliances have important strategic facilities located in Western Europe. Two vitally necessary intercontinental ground, air and sea communications meet here. Compared with other regions, this territory is the most operationally prepared. The territory includes railroad and road networks, airfields, a system of stationary and defended points of control for communications, an antiaircraft defense system, missile launching positions, a wide network of military depots, major sea and river ports, and highly developed pipeline transportation. In short, the military might of the two alliances is concentrated in central Europe. Operationally, this is the most developed and prepared region for conducting large-scale operations. If it comes to a military conflict in this region, this will be the fiercest and most decisive battle involving the entire arsenal of modern weapons.

Concentrating a large quantity of conventional armaments in central Europe creates a real danger of war. This danger could substantially increase over the next few years. Why do we draw this conclusion? We believe this because NATO is currently reassessing its doctrinal tenets. Evidence of this is provided by well-known official statements by NATO leaders, particularly General Rogers, supreme commander of the joint NATO armed forces in Europe, and by well-known practical measures which are currently being implemented within NATO. Their essence consists of the fact that, while not renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons but placing stakes on nuclear weapons, NATO has currently adopted a course toward a significant buildup of its conventional armed forces.

Literally the other day, at a conference in Munich attended by leading political and military figures in NATO, Rogers alleged that the buildup in the bloc's conventional armed forces and the development of conventional armaments on the basis of the latest technology were being done in order to raise the nuclear threshold.

In saying this, he asserted that the build-up of conventional armed forces would require from each citizen of the NATO countries only 40 West German marks on top of current expenditure: Or as he put it in simpler terms, the cost of a couple of good dinners, per annum. Behind these cheap dinners, far-reaching military schemes are concealed. Firstly, the United States is now demanding from its allies an annual increase of military expenditure, no longer 3 percent but no less than 4.5 percent. Second, it is envisaged that the numbers and fighting strength of the NATO armed forces should be increased. But the main thing in the plans for strengthening the conventional armed forces is equipping them with the latest forms of conventional weapons. This refers primarily to such means as would combine in one system the means of reconnaissance, automated means of control and means of destruction. These strike-and-reconnaissance means are capable of destroying targets with the first shot, and there is also a system of weapons based on new principles, of the vacuum ammunition type [tipa vakuumnykh boyerpripasov] which in its destructive capability approaches nuclear weapons. The escalation of the development of such weapons is extremely dangerous.

The opinion is expressed in the West, for example, that the presence of such weapons can tempt those fond of military adventures into making preventive strikes, which in turn will lead to nuclear war.

One of the West's leading political figures said the following, for example, and I quote: A month of war conducted with conventional weapons would bring about consequences of an exchange of nuclear strikes.

Therefore, we hope that no doubts will remain that in definite circumstances, we -- that is NATO -- would be forced to step over the nuclear threshold. And what will happen on the other side of it no one knows.

(?You) will naturally have noted two factors in that statement. The first is the assessment of the destructive consequences of war using only conventional means, and the second factor is that attitude to real facts, to the interests of mankind. Because this statement literally says: If we are going to go to hell, then we might as well go with a bang.

However, it must be remembered that application of the aforementioned most modern weapons will give military action, even without nuclear weapons, an exceptionally dstructive nature. This circumstance cannot be overstated. It has already whipped up the arms race. With the adoption of the most modern means as weapons, the threat of war increases.

This is why today we need to approach the Vienna talks with a different yardstick from 10 years ago when they began. This is why, from a military point of view, it is important to achieve agreement in Vienna on both the withdrawal of troops of the Soviet Union and the United States on the basis of mutual example, and a reduction of the overall level of military confrontation.

[Kuznetsov intervenes] A question from the correspondent of Czechoslovak radio, Stefan Babiak: Please tell us what the interrelation is between the new proposals of the socialist countries at the Vienna talks and the provisions of the Prague Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty members.

[Shervov] Without doubt there is a direct link between the new proposals of the socialist countries in Vienna and the Political Declaration adopted in Prague.

[Unidentified speaker] There is undoubtedly a direct link between the new proposal by the socialist countries in Vienna and the Political Declaration adopted in Prague. As we all know, the Political Declaration sets the tasks of achieving progress at the Vienna talks which have now been going on for many years, and it stresses the striving by Warsaw Treaty member-states to promote this in every possible way. The declaration, I should also like to recall, also outlines certain specific measures which became the foundation for the proposals that have now been submitted by the socialist countries at the Vienna talks. Naturally, these proposals were supplemented and elaborated, taking into account the state of affairs at the talks. For example, specific figures were given for equal collective levels of troop numbers which would be established by both sides as a result of reductions. Incidentally, as we all know, the sides have reached a mutual understanding regarding those levels. As we heard in the report by Viktor Georgiyevich Komplektov, concrete form has also been given to a proposal contained in the declaration regarding implementation of practical measures by the Soviet Union and the United States to reduce armed forces and armaments in central Europe on the basis of mutual example. The new proposal -- I would like to draw your attention to this once more -- indicates in detail the amount of these reductions: 20,000 men for the Soviet Union, and 13,000 men for the United States.

I should also like to stress that the new proposals by the socialist countries are just one of the elements which, taken together as a whole, from the specific program of action proposed by those countries in Prague with the aim of consolidating the foundations of peace and security on the European Continent. We think that the initiative we have come forward with in Vienna is, in fact, a vivid example of how vital questions on the agenda of both international and European politics should be solved.

Editorial Article Lauds Initiative

PM201925 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[Editorial article: "Vienna: Time for Action, The New Proposals of the Socialist States" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] On 17 February the Soviet Union introduced new proposals at the talks underway in Vienna on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. This constructive step was undertaken on behalf of the GFR a, Poland, the USSR and the CSSR; that is, all the socialist states which are direct participants in the Vienna forum. The proposals submitted are based on the agreed line determined by the Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee. They meet in a business-like manner the aspirations of the peoples of Europe -- and not only of Europe -- who deem it vitally important to halt the arms race and switch to practical steps in the disarmament sphere.

The lowering of military confrontation in central Europe represents an important link in the chain of measures to consolidate the bases of security on the European continent. It is in this region, a key area in the strategic respect, a region which was the birthplace of two world wars and where the armed forces of two military-political alliances -- NATO and the Warsaw Pact -- currently confront one another that there exists a concentration of forces and armaments which is excessively high for peacetime. Proceeding from the signifance of this region, if a military conflict were to break out in central Europe it could easily speed to other regions of the world.

The talks in Vienna, which have the aim of reducing armed forces and armanents in central Europe, have already been in progress for almost a decade but have so far failed to produce any agreements. Of course, it cannot be said that all these years have been in vain, that no efforts for progress have been made at the talks. For instance, there are certain mutual understandings of a general nature concerning the fact that the reduction must result in the lowering of the confrontation in the center of Europe to equal collective ceilings for the armed forces of both sides. But the talks have moved no further than this; the goal has not been reached. This is happening because the solution of the problem has been blocked by hopeless and moreover -- and this is the main point -- fruitless agruments about who has more or fewer soldiers in the area of the future reductions.

The numbers debate was artifically introduced at the talks by the United States and its NATO allies, which are insisting on an asymmetrical reduction of the Warsaw Pact states' troops -- three times that projected for their own troops. In order somehow to justify this absurd demand the NATO countries, without adducing any proof, talk about the alleged substantial numerical superiority of the Warsaw Pact's ground forces. Moreover, without citing any convincing evidence whatsoever, they cast doubt on the official data submitted by the socialist countries concerning the Warsaw Pact forces. When compared with the NATO force strength these figures testify to the existence of approximate equality between the force strengths of both military alliances in the center of Europe. In accordance with the official exchange of data at the talks, the countries of the Warsaw Pact and NATO possess 979,000 and 991,000 men respectively, of which 796,700 and 792,500 are ground forces.

If one tackles the crux of the problem then the arguments over the current figures are simply pointless. For the sides have arrived at a mutual understanding at the talks that ultimately, following a reduction, they will possess an equal number of troops in the center of the European Continent -- 900,000 men each.

Meanwhile, the purpose of the talks seems essentially to have gotten lost behind the endless numbers debate: The reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe -- or in other words, the reason for which the representatives of the Warsaw Pact states and NATO came to Vienna back in 1973.

With the aim of altering the situation that has taken shape at the talks and surmounting the artifically created "numbers barrier" the socialist states are proposing a fundamentally new, simple and practical approach aimed at achieving really tangible results at Vienna without detriment to anyone's security.

What does this approach comprise, and what are its advantages?

It is above all a question of AGREEING ON A REDUCTION OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT ARMED FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE TO EQUAL COLLECTIVE CEILINGS OF 900,000 MEN ON EACH SIDE, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE DIVERGENCES IN THE DATA ON THE SIDES' CURRENT FORCE STRENGTHS. Each side would itself determine that volume of reduction of its armed forces from the existing level necessary to achieve the given equal collective ceilings. It is important that, as a result of the reductions, both the Warsaw Pact and NATO maintain in central Europe no more than 900,000 men in their armed forces, of which no more than 700,000 would be ground forces.

This is indeed the goal which is to be attained as a result of the Vienna talks and which elicits no objections from the talks' participants.

Thus, real premises are created for the formulation of an accord in a short space of time -- a year, say. This also applies to the question of agreeing on mutually acceptable adequate measures for verifying the force levels remaining after all reductions. The practical accomplishment of the task is visibly simplified. In place of the numerical data which hitherto have caused arguments at the talks, the socialist states' new proposals put forward just two final coordinates in respect of which there is already mutual understanding at the talks.

The adoption of these coordinates would be the optimal variant for the implementation of the agreed principles governing the conduct of the Vienna talks -- reciprocity and nondetriment to the sides' security. Indeed, it is difficult to find a more ample format for the materialization of the goal of the Vienna talks -- lowering the level of military confrontation in central Europe.

In proposing their new approach to the solution of the long standing problems the socialist states also cite an initial step which would enable things to get moving even before the elaboration of an agreement embracing the armed forces and armaments in central Europe belonging to all 11 of the direct participants in the talks. THIS STEP CONSISTS IN THE USSR AND THE UNITED STATES REDUCING THEIR ARMED FORCES ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL EXAMPLE, OUTSIDE OF ANY CONTRACTUAL FRAMEWORK, BY 20,000 AND 13,000 SERVICEMEN RESPECTIVELY, ALONG WITH THEIR ARMANENTS. The Soviet Union is again demonstrating its good will and its desire to advance the cause of military detente in the center of Europe. For the USSR is prepared to reduce its Armed Forces in addition to the 20,000 servicemen and 1,000 tanks and other combat hardware unilaterally withdrawn earlier from the GDR.

The mutual reduction of Soviet and American troops and armaments would initiate the practical lowering of the levels of the two military-political alliances' dangerous confrontation in the center of the European Continent. It would demonstrate the seriousness of the sides' intentions and would bring the first tangible result at the Vienna talks. The faith of the European peoples in the talks' ultimate success would thereby be strengthened. Finally, it is also important that the accomplishment of this action would permit the accumulation of useful practical experience for the subsequent, large-scale reductions of NATO and Warsaw Pact armed forces.

The practical advantages of carrying out reductions on the basis of mutual example are obvious. It does not require protracted agreement of details and calculations of overall force strengths.

The first practical step toward the ultimate goal of the talks could be taken within a very short space of time in as much as the achievement of accord on reducing the armed forces and armaments of the Soviet Union and the United States requires very little -- agreement on the schedule and procedure for the withdrawal of the contingents subject to reduction, and the organization of observers of the withdrawal from both sides.

Mutual example would, indisputably, be of great significance in creating a favorable situation for advancement in the future to other, larger-scale steps in the sphere of military detente. And herein would lie its undoubted political value.

Of course, positive efforts within the framework of mutual example could lose their meaning if they were not accompanied by a freeze on the levels of the forces and armaments in central Europe belonging to all the direct participants in the Vienna negotiations. In other words, in the interval between the initial reduction of the forces and armaments of the Soviet Union and the United States and the final reductions, there must be no buildup of forces and armaments, or any other actions which would contravene the aims of the talks, that is, to reduce the numbers of the sides' armed forces to equal collective levels. In this connection the socialist countries propose that all the direct participants in the talks assume mutual political pledges TO FREEZE THE LEVELS OF THEIR ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. Naturally, such a freeze is not an end in itself inasmuch as it would be maintained only until the achievement of a final accord, which could be formulated, for instance, within a year.

By placing these new proposals on the table of the Vienna talks the socialist countries are declaring to their Western partners: It is time for action. They hope that the Western side will approach their new proposals in all earnestness and with all responsibility and will finally display -- not in words but in deeds -- the political will to achieve a mutually acceptable accord.

The peoples of Europe await good news from Vienna.

Western Reply to Proposals Urged

PM211507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 1

[B. Vinogradov article under the rubric "Foreign News": "Up to the West"]

[Text] The socialist countries' new initiatives advanced 17 February at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe have been greeted with great approval by the broad international public. To judge from the first news agency comments, people in West European capitals recognize that these initiatives provide an opportunity to overcome the deadlock at the talks.

Foreign mass media emphasize that the new proposals of the Soviet Union, the GDR, Poland and the CSSR in Vienna concretize the provisions of the Warsaw Pact states' Prague Political Declaration.

As is known, there is already mutual understanding at the Vienna talks with regard to the overall number of troops after their reduction -- not more than 900,000 men on both sides, including not more than 700,000 in the ground forces. And the socialist states declare their readiness to undertake a mutual reduction to the said level regardless of differences over how many NATO and Warsaw Pact troops there are in this region now. The achievement of equal collective ceilings, which is what the socialist countries advocate, when agreeing on mutually acceptable and adequate verification measures, would be a constructive step on the way to reducing armed forces and would meet the interests of preserving peace and stability on the European Continent.

Displaying a will for progress in the matter of reducing armed forces and arms in central Europe -- in a region where the most powerful groupings of NATO and Warsaw Pact Armed Forces directly confront each other -- the Soviet Union has already unilaterally withdrawn 20,000 Soviet servicemen from this region. And, as the new proposals point out, it is prepared to withdraw from central Europe 20,000 more men from among the ground forces over the course of a year if the United States withdraws 13,000 men from its contingent of ground forces during the same period. This would be an initial step based on mutual example and would be followed by a freeze on the levels of the sides' armed forces and arms.

The NATO countries must take a step in reply. The 10-year course of the talks shows that it is through their fault alone that progress has not been made in Vienna, while the talks themselves have been deadlocked and turned into fruitless discussions over troop strengths. It is up to the West.

ZAGLADIN, BOVIN, OTHERS INTERVIEWED ON ARMS TALKS

LD192058 Budapest MTI in English 1705 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Budapest, February 19 (MTI) -- How does the Soviet Union judge the prospects of reducing military confrontation, the chances of the Geneva talks? This was the leading question in the interviews given to the Moscow correspondent of the daily NEPSZABADSAG by prominent Soviet public personalities, which is carried by the paper's Saturday edition.

Asked whether one can hope that an agreement will be reached in Geneva on the Euromissiles, Vadim Zagladin, first deputy head of the CPSU CC's International Department, said: "Judging the attitude of our partners it seems that they do not really strive for such an agreement and in fact openly admit as much nowadays." To support his statement Zagladin quoted an interview [?of] Bush with CBS on February 13, in which Bush said that irrespective of the run of the Geneva talks the deployment of American missiles would push ahead in Europe at the end of 1983.

Zagladin pointed out that since the Second World War the Soviet Union has never even attempted to repeat in each case what the United States has done in the development of its arsenal. "We only take measures," he said, "when there is an imminent danger that the situation will decisively change to harm the security of the socialist countries."

"No one should doubt now," continued Zagladin, "that an adequate response will follow from our part if the United States attempts to upset military parity in any field, if a single American missile appears in Europe, for example. The U.S. cannot lull itself into the false hope that it will be able to mount a surprise attack against the Soviet Union and its allies without imposing a similar danger on itself. This, however, would not be our decision, but a decision forced on the Soviet and American peoples by the resent U.S. Administration.

Commenting on such calculations that the Soviet Union will eventually "run short of breath," Zagladin stated that although no country ever gains by having to make additional military efforts, and the Soviet Union would prefer to spend the money on peaceful purposes, no one should forget: "The Socialist national economy has enormous reserves. Much larger ones than American Government experts like to imagine. And there is another thing: People who are behind the armament race underestimate the cooperation potential of the socialist countries," Zagladin said, recalling that the participants of the latest meeting in Prague of the Warsaw-Treaty Political Consultative Committee stressed: "Our countries consider the security of their peoples a common cause."

In conclusion, Zagladin said: "The run of the events in the arena of the world is determined by the interaction of the policies of different countries and by the activity of the masses. This means as much as that the American leaders -- in spite of all [words indistinct] are no longer in a position to force their will on the whole world. We regret that the policy of Washington is the way it is, nor do we want confrontation with the United States. We wish the same to the American people we wish to ours: that they may live in peace and tranquility."

Zagladin quoted a statement by Andropov which runs "the Soviet and American peoples have one enemy in common: the danger of war and all else that may add to that." He added: "We are ready to cooperate with the Americans to the utmost in order to overcome this enemy which is also the enemy of the whole mankind."

Major General Ivan Popov, a member of the military command of The Soviet Armed Forces, said that the most alarming element of military confrontation was the extremely high level of nuclear confrontation. Newer and newer adventurous concepts, elaborated in the USA, such as the notion of a first strike to disarm or a limited and extended nuclear war, only add to the danger. "Whereas if one is aware of facts, it is easy to realize that there will be no winner or loser in a nuclear conflict as a nuclear war will mean the destruction of the whole mankind."

Popov called the U.S. allegation that the Soviet Union holds nuclear supremacy in Europe, a lie. He quoted figures in evidence, pointing out that the Soviet Union has 975 and the NATO 986 medium-range missiles and added that the West is conveniently silent about the fact that "NATO has one and a half times as many nuclear warheads as the Soviet Union."

Aleksand Bovin, a commentator of IZVESTIYA, said, among other things, that he was convinced that no good news could be expected of the Geneva Euromissile talks before the West German elections because "the Americans have precisely calculated that if they were to grant some concessions now, this would impair the position of Helmut Kohl who is all for the 'zero option'."

Asked what to expect then he said: "An unpredictable administration like Reagan's can be expected to take even extreme steps. In a given case, from our point of view, it may even be a positive step. But as a matter of fact I would bid it to be less likely now than its opposite."

"Anyway, I think as long as Reagan is the lord of the White House no substantial change is to be anticipated in Soviet-American relations. This is my personal opinion. Naturally we shall continue talks in the meantime and use even the smallest possibility to ease tension. A substantial change will occur only when a new government I hope of a more positive attitude -- comes to power in the United States. We have to talk with them then and maybe reach an agreement," said Bovin.

Radomir Bodganov, deputy director of the Moscow scientific institute in charge of American and Canadian studies, was asked how far the United States can go in increasing the pace of armament. He said: The time has passed when armament had no negative impact on the economy in the United States. "The first warning signs could be seen in the second stage of the Vietnam war. Then the astonishing price rise of arms systems was the collateral phenomenon of an inflationary process. The process has been going on ever since, that is the golden age of the American military-industrial complex is drawing to a close. This, in fact, should urge American legislators and other political circles to curb military expenditure. The benefit of such a move would be enjoyed by the American people and the whole of mankind."

DMITRIYEV ON NEW U.S., UK NUCLEAR WARHEADS

LD210020 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Excerpts] The United States is about to enter a new age of missile technology in which nuclear warheads will be designed to maneuver in flight either to dodge enemy defenses or to home in on a target with unparelleled accuracy. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES news service, the first such maneuvering of MARV warheads are expected to be deployed on the Pershing II medium-range missile in Europe. We bring you a comment by our observer Igor Dmitriyev:

In theory, according to a report by the Congressional Research Service, Pershing II warheads are expected to land within 20 to 40 meters of the target - at least 10 times closer than the most advanced version of the Pershing I. Research is also underway, in fact has been underway for almost 15 years, to add maneuverability to strategic warheads. Last year, there were reports that Great Britain too was developing a more accurate warhead for its submarine-launched missiles. The goal is to develop a warhead that would be able to penetrate Moscow's defenses. The Chevaline warhead bears six independently targetable nuclear weapons. Its deployment will raise the British total to 384 warheads. Common sense must have completely failed the British when they insist that their nuclear arsenal should be ignored in the assessment of the European nuclear line-up.

The secret Pentagon document fiscal 1984-88 defense guidance provides for a first nuclear strike in Europe by medium-range and tactical nuclear arms. If this is so why does the Reagan administration want to abolish from the face of the earth an entire class of medium-range missiles? This is what the United States President said was the ultimate goal of his zero-option offer. First of all, he wants to abolish only Soviet missiles; the French and British arsenal will remain intact. So will hundreds of American medium-range aircraft that are capable of striking the Soviet Union with nuclear arms.

Reagan's proposal is absolutely unacceptable to this country. But this is precisely why it was put forward by the administration. From the very beginning it knew that the USSR would not accept it. So the zero-option is an ideal thing to sabotage the talks; blame the other side for the lack of progress in Geneva and, in the final analysis, for the deployment for the American missiles.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD201736 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0945 GMT 20 Feb 83

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, international affairs journalist; Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, editor-in-chief of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI; and Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolev, all-union radio commentator]

MBFR Talks, Soviet Proposals

[Text] [Sobolev] Hello, comrades. Recently our colleagues -- journalists from various countries, including Western countries -- have started to talk once again about the peace offensive from the East. By this paradoxical expression they emphasize the persistence with which the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are striving to halt the arms race, reach a level of confidence and mutual understanding between the opposing military political blocs and seek a way out of the impasse in the dialogue being conducted between representatives of the two blocs. This time, as you understand, it is the new initiatives of the socialist countries put forward at the negotiations going on in the Austrian capital on reducing armed forces and weapons in central Europe which are involved. These negotiations have been going on for a long time and without any perceptible success. Their role, however, is very, very important in particular because the United States and its NATO allies reject the total elimination of nuclear weapons in Europe -- the real zero option -- alleging some sort of imbalance of ordinary weapons in this region.

[Gerasimov] I would say, Vitaliy Sergeyevich, that the Vienna negotiations have been in the background somewhat. The two sets of negotiations in Geneva, the negotiations on nuclear arms in Europe and the strategic arms limitation and reduction negotiations, have become prominent. The Vienna negotiations, however, have been going on the longest. There have been more than 300 plenary sessions and 29 rounds -- a sort of Vienna marathon. Generations of diplomats have taken over one after the other, debating the problem of reducing armaments and armed forces in central Europe. It should be pointed out here that in contrast to the negotiations being conducted in Geneva between the Soviet Union and the United States, the Vienna negotiations are multilateral, with 11 participants and 8 observers there. What have they been engaged in all this time? The sides exchanged numerical data long ago. The exchange of these data showed the existence of approximate parity. Nevertheless, there are still disputes over the numbers. The West is keeping the negotiations idling along by casting doubt on the figures put forward by the other side. As a result the negotiations may be said to have become bogged down in an arithmetic quagmire.

We propose a way out by means of a fundamentally new and essentially simple approach: To stop arguing over how many troops each side has at present and to come to an agreement on a number of measures, first and foremost to agree on both NATO and the Warsaw Pact having equal collective levels in central Europe -- 900,000 men on each side with a sublevel of 700,000 land troops.

Second, we propose that this very year both sides take the initial practical step of reducing a part of their Armed Forces in central Europe. We are ready here to cut the numbers of our Armed Forces by 20,000 men from the complement of our land troops, if the United States withdraws 13,000 of its own land troops by the same date in the given area. This would be a mutual example.

It should be recalled here that we already made a gesture of good will a few years ago when we withdrew 20,000 men and 1,000 tanks. The West, however, made no substantial response to this gesture.

[Yefimov] Further, Gennadiy Ivanovich, we propose a few more serious things in introducing this essentially new approach to disarmament in central Europe. We propose that because of the simplicity and practical nature of our proposals, the negotiations can be completed within a year. We suggest, if the West accepts this proposal, that the present level of armaments and armed forces in central Europe be frozen, that is not increased.

The new proposals put forward on behalf of four socialist countries are now being commented upon in a lively fashion both in and far beyond the confines of Europe. I should like to draw listeners' attention to three important aspects. First, in making their new proposals, the socialist countries do not seek unilateral advantages for themselves. They propose equal levels of arms and armed forces and do not desire to have a single soldier in central Europe more than the NATO countries have. These are honest and just proposals. The socialist countries are hereby proceeding from the principle of equal security of the sides, a principle which is very important to us.

Second, such an approach to the problem in itself and the letter and spirit of our proposals cannot but help to strengthen trust between countries. At the present time trust is very much lacking.

Finally, in the third place, this opens the way for the fastest possible completion of the long drawn-out negotiations which, through the fault of the Western countries, have been fruitlessly dragging on for almost 10 years. In other words, they give the green light for a mutual reduction of arms and armed forces in central Europe.

Cheysson Visit, French Relations

[Sobolev] Continuing the discussion on the latest events in the world arena, one should say that Cheysson, the French minister of external relations, arrived in our country this week on an official visit. Soviet-French relations have played an important role in establishing and consolidating relaxation of tension. Our economic cooperation also has helped to improve the international climate and helped to solve the important economic tasks of both countries. Over the last 3 years the volume of mutual trade amounted to R11.5 billion. A year ago an agreement on supplies of Siberian gas to France and of French equipment for construction of the Uzhgorod-Urengoy gas pipeline was signed. One should also mention cooperation in space, particularly the work of the Soviet-French crew on the Soviet-made orbital complex.

[Gerasimov] During the visit an agreement on scientific cooperation was signed, but attention, of course, was paid mainly to foreign policy problems. Claude Cheysson's visit was conducted within the framework of the Soviet-French dialogue and confirms that long-standing truth that there are no means of seeking and finding ways leading to maintaining peace other than contacts, negotiations and wide-ranging political intercourse between states. In these times, when the international situation is aggravated, this is particularly important.

Although the USSR and France cooperate successfully in many spheres, we sometimes hold differing views on evaluating the political situation in Europe and ways of putting it right.

[Yefimov] In many spheres, however, these relations are developing well and Cheysson even stressed that nothing and no one will hinder us from developing them further successfully.

[Sobolev] As Comrade Cheysson emphasized at a dinner in honor of the French guest, both the Soviet Union and France cannot but see that the situation in the world is arousing anxiety and that peace in Europe, the foundation of which they managed to secure in the 1970's, is still frail.

NATO, Zero Option

[Gerasimov] Last week, many observers continued to discuss the results of U.S. Vice President George Bush's visit to Europe where he conducted -- as was officially claimed -- consultations with the United States' NATO allies about the problem of deploying U.S. medium-range missiles.

As everyone knows, of course, these missiles are to be deployed from December of this year unless an agreement is reached on this point at the negotiations being conducted in Geneva. In Geneva, however, the Americans have put forward a so-called zero option about which a lot has also been said. During Bush's trip it emerged that the United States has no other additional option in reserve.

[Sobolev] At his last press conference, President Reagan affirmed that they persistently adhere to this zero option although there is murmuring throughout the world about such a lack of flexibility, even amongst the United State's closest partners.

[Gerasimov] It is also being said of the United States, however, that the negotiations will stand still until 6 March with no progress being made. March 6 is the date of the elections in West Germany. The problem of the deployment of U.S. missiles on West German territory has almost become one of the key issues in the election campaign in the country. The Americans, therefore, are waiting for that date. On the whole, however, there are no signs that the Reagan administration will put forward any additional compromise option even after 6 March.

[Sobolev] It is well-known that the zero option demands the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union and the Soviet Union will not agree to such disarmament. Our point of view is being met with increasing undersanding both in the press and by politicians in the West. In particular, THE NEW YORK TIMES, which comments that the U.S. President's zero option no longer enjoys any particular support from the Western allies, has published an entire article entitled: Missiles That Count, which refers to the French and British medium-range nuclear missiles. THE NEW YORK TIMES says that indisputably, this is merely an obvious reality, since these armaments exist: 18 French land-based missiles and 60 sea-based missiles with 98 warheads and 64 British sea-based missiles -- 162 warheads in all. The British will shortly equip their missiles with Chevaline multiple warheads each of which represents six independently-targeted warheads.

[Yefimov] The French also intend to modernize their nuclear forces.

[Sobolev] Yes, so, as a result the total number of warheads will reach 384. It seems inescapable, THE NEW YORK TIMES asserts, that the French and British missiles will have to be taken into account in drawing up an East-West equilibrium of nuclear forces acceptable to all. That they will have to be taken into account in some form is also the opinion of Vogel, the SPD candidate for West German chancellor.

[Gerasimov] This is written into his election platform.

[Sobolev] Yes, in order to be able to stop the growth of armaments at the lowest possible level.

[Gerasimov] In Geneva, meanwhile, where the Disarmament Committee is in session, UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar addressed a meeting of that committee on Tuesday. He expressed some very interesting ideas about the role of the public in the struggle for peace and about enhancing that role. He said mankind is now coming to realize that we must choose, as he put it, between new generations of armaments and future generations of men. The UN secretary general noted a deeper understanding on the part of many people of the true character of nuclear war, a conflict in which there will be no victors and which will leave behind what one might figuratively describe as a republic of grass and insects. Among Americans, the awareness of the danger of the arms race has grown to such an extent that, as THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes, Senator Cranston of California evidently believes that he can gain the Democrat presidential nomination by making support for the idea of a nuclear freeze -- that is of ending the arms race -- one of the main components of his election campaign.

The fact that the U.S. is clinging to the notorious zero option is causing the West Europeans to have doubts as to whether Washington is conducting the Geneva talks with a sincere desire to reach agreement. Dutch Prime Minister Lubbers recently said at a press conference that even if the talks end in complete failure, the possibility will remain that Holland will work out a solution in which it would renounce the siting of U.S. missiles.

[Yefimov] If we imagine a completely opposite picture, then the absurdity of Reagan's proposal will become perfectly clear. On NATO's side, only one country possesses such missiles. It does not matter which country so let us assume it is the United States. On the Warsaw Pact side, three countries have such missiles - the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Poland. Then we propose: Let us abolish the Soviet and American one and let the Czech and Polish ones remain. Imagine how the West would react to such a proposal!

[Gerasimov] Similarly, one sometimes has occasion to say in talking to the Americans: Well, you want to install your missiles right on our border, missiles which have a very short flight time [Yevimov] only 4 minutes.

[Gerasimov] Well some say it is 6. But that does not matter. It is very short, anyway. There is nothing you can do in 4 minutes or 6 minutes, or not much, anyway. Suppose we installed the same missiles somewhere near you -- in Canada somewhere or Mexico -- we are talking theoretically now but say, in your vicinity. How would you react?

[Sobolev] Comrades, we have already spoken more than once of the way the Washington leaders -- and some of their partners as well -- turn common words and concepts inside out. There are many examples and the White House has added another this week. I refer to the program of democracy and public diplomacy which it has proclaimed and which boils down to violating all norms both of democracy and of diplomacy, actions throughout the world in the spirit of the secret services on such a scale that the U.S. leaders now prefer to speak of them openly.

U.S. 'Global Democracy', Barbie

You know, this has been done before. U.S. President Woodrow Wilson during World War I felt that the United States must save the world for democracy. It was evidently for this purpose that he sent U.S. troops to Arkhangelsk and Vladivostok, to help strangle Soviet power in its cradle. Now, 63 years later, we have the present President with his policy of strengthening global democracy. This policy was initiated last summer, in President Reagan's speech to the British Parliament. He evidently expects that speech to be just as historic as Churchill's speech at Fulton.

Then in October last year, there was a conference in Washington on this subject and another one later. From the point of view of domestic politics, the administration is counting on using this concern for democracy to exist in other countries to strengthen its claim to the role of spiritual leader of society and, correspondingly, its chances of staying in power. From the point of view of foreign policy, the administration probably imagines it has found a slogan that will enable the United States to regain its image as a beacon of liberty, like its reputation in the 19th century. That reputation was completely at odds with many of the realities of American life at the time such as slavery, for example. Still, the reputation was preserved and the administration would like to repeat history and thereby reinforce its claims to world leadership.

I should say that one of the aims of this present campaign, including public diplomacy, is to intensify the propaganda war against the state foundations of the socialist countries. For instance, at the conference in Washington on this global democracy problem, Secretary of State George Schultz, being openly provocative, gave encouragement to the internal forces in the socialist countries.

So in no way are they talking here of democracy. They are in fact scorning international law, the UN Charter and the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act because it is a cover for intervention, a cover for interference in the affairs of other countries.

[Sobolev] This program includes support for U.S. placement and the nurturing of U.S. puppets in other countries. Those who accept such a role are by no means the best representatives of the human race. It is enough to take a look at the present prototypes of Washington's future cadres; dictators, ringleaders of ultra-rightwing gangs, international provocateurs and saboteurs. There are also good grounds to include among their number criminals of various sorts -- felons with political pretentions -- and also the former Nazis who have found concealment and congenial work, in the United States or with U.S. help.

[Yevimov] One Nazi, the former Lyons Gestapo Chief Barbie, has been extradited to France from Bolivia. He was on his conscience thousands who were tortured to death. Twice Barbie has been sentenced to death in absentia in France but the time limit of those decisions has expired and there is to be a new trial, this time not in absentia.

Well, one more criminal has been caught and will face retribution. But there arises, perhaps, another question: Why has justice only triumphed 40 years after the end of the war? The criminal Barbie was recruited and given a cover by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, the CIA. He is not the only one. They have had more than enough Barbies. The SS Brigadier General Franz (Suks) and Major Friedrich (Wuchold), for example, are also war criminals. On their conscience are monstrous crimes against the peaceful inhabitants of Smolensk and Vitebsk. But the CIA sheltered them too. Why? (Wuchold) compiled a report for the CIA on the anti-communist underground in the Baltic region, Western Ukraine and Belorussia. (Fricks) passed on a card index to the Americans on a number of Soviet officials whom (Fricks) intended to seize in Moscow. That is another such case.

How many of these criminals have been used and are still being used by the CIA at the stations Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty and so on? Many. Did the CIA leaders know what sort of people these were? They did. But, as one senior official of the CIA has cynically remarked, that did not matter to us. We, he continued, needed specialists.

In other words, they considered and still consider that the cold war or psychological warfare or simply anti-Sovietism justifies everything. According to this logic they could have used Himmler who does not lack experience as a specialist. (Gorro), the Bolivian journalist who flew in the same aircraft as Barbie, writes that first the criminal was not despondent when he was being taken out of Bolivia. For some reason he thought that he was being taken to the FRG where so many criminals have been acquitted in court and he was smiling calmly on the journey. However, this smile disappeared on the approach to Lyons and the criminal became panic-stricken.

Thus France is awaiting the judgement on Barbie, and not only France. Barbie began his crimes on Soviet territory. I would like to use this occasion to appeal to radio listeners: If, dear comrades, you have any information about this criminal, please tell us either by writing to the radio station or the editorial office of the paper MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI.

West's 'Grave' Economic Situation

[Sobolev] Among the international problems we should talk about here, many are connected as before with the grave economic situation in the West. Although a certain official optimism exists in Washington and other Western capitals concerning the prospects for this year, there is another view which on the contrary is very pessimistic.

Take for example what the French paper NOUVELLE OBSERVATEUR writes in an article entitled: Crash on the Western Horizon. This is what is written: The latest fashionable parlor game in the Wall Sreet skyscrapers is to bet on the imminent economic disaster. At the bookmakers of doom, pessimism is on the rise. In the opinion of the international financial oligarchy, we are all -- meaning the countries of the West -- sitting on a time bomb. Will it explode? Kaufmann, the owner of the Solomon Brothers Firm, is giving 6 and 7 to 1 on for the crash. A former economic aide to President Ford and now one of the most respected consultants of the U.S. establishment estimates the probability of this explosion at between 10 and 20 to 1.

[Gerasimov] But in general we must say that unemployment is an U.S. tragedy, as President Reagan himself said, an unceasing tragedy. But this phenomenon is now characteristic of the entire capitalist world. Take, for example, the unemployment level in Britain. It is even higher than in the United States.

[Yefimov] If all the unemployed in Britain were lined up, the line would cross the country from north to south 2 and 1/2 times.

[Gerasimov] You are right. It was Edward Kennedy, I think, who said that if all the U.S. unemployed were placed in a line it would stretch from Washington to the Pacific coast.

[Sobolev] If all the lines at the employment offices were made into one single line it would stretch through the whole of the United States.

[Yefimov] From ocean to ocean.

[Gerasimov] No, no. What Edward Kennedy said exactly was that it was only from Washington. But that is already about 1 year ago, if my memory does not fail me. Now it would certainly be from ocean to ocean. But what I would like to add, incidentally, is that in January the President announced with great pride that the level of unemployment in the United States dropped by 0.4 percent as compared with December and is now at 10.4 percent. The fact of the matter is, however, that for January Washington slightly improved the arithmetic used to calculate the figures and has begun to include the armed forces in the number of those working. So as a result, the level of unemployment has dropped -- the level that is. But if we take the number of people out of work then we find it has even increased. This figure now stands at 12.5 million.

[Sobolev] The problem of unemployment in the United States has now taken on a new aspect, which Thomas O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, defined thus: The time of hoping for jobs has passed and now the time of action for jobs has begun. Many Americans look to the President for such action. However, in his latest economic message to Congress, he reiterated that he stubbornly refuses to allocate funds to the appropriate programs. He justifies his refusal thus: It is better to wait for the economy to begin to revive and then teach the unemployed the skills required to revitalize the economy.

However, grants are also being cut to professional and technical training programs and to job-creation programs. They have been cut from $9.2 billion in 1981 to $5.2 billion this year. Further cuts are to be made in the budget for 1984.

As for the prospects of an uplift in the economy, we have talked about them already. In his preelection speeches, the President described one more than one occasion the painful scene from his childhood when just before Christmas his father received an envelope with a dismissal notice. I will never forget this, Reagan said at the time. I will not allow inflation and unemployment to crush the dignity of our people. The French paper LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE which recalls these stories, also recalls that during Reagan's years in power 4 million Americans have lost their jobs and speaks ironically about the fact that doubling the military budget every 5 years is not enough to keep that promise.

[Yefimov] I would like to add that Reagan, quite unexpectedly for many Americans, has called this year the year of the Bible. It is unexpected because they are totally unable to understand what's behind it. Really, he has not called this year the year of the fight against unemployment or the year of improving the international situation. There are many things he could have called this year but he chose the year of the Bible. The chief representative of the administration of millionaires, as the Americans themselves say, probably really does know the Bible; but I would like to remind him of one pronouncement from the Bible: It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle then for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. In the opinion of many Americans the administration is simply occupied with the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer, an American expression. In fact, in this year of the Bible, spending on education, health care and aid to the homeless is being cut.

USSR-CEMA Countries

[Sobolev] Continuing our discussion about the events of the past week, mention must definitely be made of the fact that during that week the socialist countries have been marking several important dates. Today the Czechoslovak people are celebrating the 35th anniversary of the February victory by the working people over the forces of reaction, the victory of the people's democracy. The Czechoslovak press is summing up the results of the economic and social development which has become possible due to that victory.

February 13 was the anniversary of the trade agreement between the USSR and Cuba. This took place in 1960 when Washington conceived the idea of breaking the island of freedom by means of an economic blockade. The agreement made an enormous breach in the wall of that blockade. Since then, the volume of trade between our countries has increased 30 times over. Some 160 enterprises have been built or modernized in Cuba with Soviet aid, including a cane-harvesting combine works, a fishing port and thermal power stations. Another power station is now under construction in Havana and an atomic power station at Cienfuegos. In turn, Cuba regularly supplies us with sugar, citrus fruits, nickel and other goods that we badly need.

February 18 was also the 35th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid between the Soviet Union and Hungary. A message from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet and USSR Council of Ministers stresses that this historic act played an important role in forming new, truly fraternal relations between the Soviet Union and Hungary and has become a substantial factor in preserving peace and consolidating security in Europe.

[Yefimov] Much could be said about Soviet-Hungarian cooperation, about the fact that it is mutually advantageous, that, for example, the Soviet Union is one of Hungary's largest trade partners, accounting for 1/3 of the country's foreign trade turnover. But all of us and particularly, perhaps, those who live in the cities are familiar with Icarus buses. Hungary is, of course, a small country but it has now built one of the largest complex in Europe for producing buses. Naturally, it doesn't need that many buses for itself. The complex produces buses for many other countries throughout the world. For any country, large-scale production is of great significance. It creates very solid conditions for developing the corresponding branches of science, for developing technology and for creating qualified worker and technician cadres. All this is very evident from the example of the Icarus buses in Hungary.

[Sobolev] The fraternal countries are now finalizing the results of their economic development last year. In this connection the magazine WISSENSCHAFT, which is published in Berlin, notes that last year the national economics of the socialist countries grew by an average of 3 percent while in the developed capitalist countries the volume of production fell last year by 0.5 percent. A vivid example of successful economic development is Bulgaria, where production grew last year by a whole 5 percent.

[Yefimov] In 1944 a correspondent for the U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK wrote from Sofia that Bulgaria produced such a minute amount of electricity that it would not even be enough to light up the signs in Times Square in New York. It was true 40 years ago, Bulgaria's electricity generation per capita was the lowest in Europe. Today, Bulgarian Minister of Power Supply Nikola Todoriev states that Bulgaria has travelled the path from the kerosene lamp to the atomic power station. Today Bulgaria, in terms of per capita electricity generation, is among the top 20 countries of the world, beating such countries as Italy and Spain.

What is the basis of such a significant jump forward? First and foremost, as the Bulgarians themselves and the Bulgarian minister of power supply in particular say, it is the cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. As a result of this cooperation, the Kozlodui Atomic Power Station was built with Soviet aid in 3 years more atomic power station, like the first, will provide 1/4 of the country's entire electricity. All these atomic power stations are being built on the basis of large-scale and, naturally, mutually-advantageous cooperation and coordination with all the CEMA countries.

[Sobolev] At this point, comrades, we end our program. Thank you for listening and good-bye.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD181823 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 18 Feb 83

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Yevgeniy Viktorovich Kachanov, foreign-political commentator of all-union radio, with Igor Petrovich Belyayev, international affairs journalist, and Konstantin Ivanovich Semenov, candidate of history]

Zero Option, Geneva Talks

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] Comrade Chebotarev from Reutov asks for an explanation of why the Soviet proposals aimed at reaching an understanding on medium-range nuclear missiles at the talks between the USSR and the United States in Geneva take into account, as he writes, only the 162 missiles belonging to Britain and France. Generally speaking, the radio and press explain in great detail the essence of this proposal; but our broadcast exists in order to provide answers to your letters, esteemed listeners. We asked Semenov, candidate of history, to peruse Comrade Chebotarev's letter, and he will provide a reply to it. Konstantin Ivanovich, please.

[Semenov] The talks in Geneva about medium-range nuclear missiles are not making any progress due to the position of the U.S. side. Let us remind our listener, Yevgeniy Viktorovich, what this position is. The U.S. Government is striving to deploy in West European countries new nuclear medium-range weapons which could reach the territory of the USSR. The West European public, or at least a very considerable part of it, feels justified fear at this step. Many people in the Western part of our continent do not believe official assurances that this will increase their security.

In order to reassure their populations, the governments of NATO countries adopted a so-called dual decision. Let the United States begin talks with the USSR on this problem, they say, and if these talks do not lead to anything then, and only then, the question of stationing U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of NATO countries will be reviewed.

It is known that at the Geneva talks the U.S. side proposed that the USSR should renounce the medium-range missiles it has possessed for a long time in exchange for a promise by the United States not to deploy its missiles of similar range in West Europe.

[Kachanov] Is this the proposal that the U.S. Government called the zero option?

[Semenov] Yes. But it is a false zero. It is false because it would be zero only for the USSR but not for NATO. Because the NATO side would still retain 162 nuclear missiles which could reach our country's territory. The USSR considers that a just solution would be one in which it would retain exactly the number of medium-range missiles needed to balance the above-mentioned British and French missiles.

The West European public regards this proposal as an honorable step, providing a genuinely zero option as far as the United States and the USSR are concerned.

[Kachanov] And here is something else, Konstantin Ivanovich. Comrade Chebotarev's letter poses the question in this way: In Greece there are U.S. bases at which there are U.S. nuclear weapons. If we propose taking into account only the nuclear weapons of France and Britain, what about Greece?

[Semenov] As is known, in Europe on the NATO side only the Americans, British and French have nuclear weapons. The other countries have signed, as Comrade Chebotarev apparently knows, the Treaty on Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Therefore, the missiles which he considers deployed on the territory of Greece can only be U.S. missiles. But Greece itself, as a member of NATO, comes out decisively against the stationing on its territory of nuclear missiles which could reach the USSR. Therefore, it can only be a question of tactical missiles which are not taken into account at the Geneva talks.

[Kachanov] Consequently, Konstantin Ivanovich, our country's proposal takes into account all medium-range nuclear missiles which NATO has or might get for its armament?

[Semenov] Of course. And the main point is that the proposal is aimed at lowering this total, balanced, number.

Arens, Israel's Defence Policy

[Kachanov] Igor Petrovich, many people are now asking what Israel's future military policy will be, in connection with the appointment of Moshe Arens -- until now Israeli ambassador in the United States -- to the post of defense minister? What can be said about this?

[Belyayev] According to the American, French and British press, he is a hawk of hawks. He once opposed the Camp David agreements, only because they were too 'mild' toward the Arabs. He has made very, very aggressive statements, when Israel was perpetrating all sorts of violence against Palestinians and Arabs, even before the invasion of Lebanon began. And this is the man who will now head the Israeli war ministry, and who in effect will determine the country's military policy. The French newspaper ECHO recalled that new Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, who takes a hostile attitude to any policy which could be taken as a sign of weakness on the part of the state of Israel, in his time has opposed not only Camp David; he has opposed any kind of talk whatsoever about the return of occupied Arab lands. And now, apparently, Moshe Arens will be continuing in his practical actions this hard line in respect to the Arabs. And the most important thing about it -- and the French press says this too -- is that Ari'el Sharon is very contented that his successor in the post of minister of defense is Moshe Arens. And here I can give you specific results of the appearance of this official at the head of the Israeli Ministry of Defense.

Literally 2 days ago, the forces of Major Haddad -- the Major who is a deserter and a traitor to the Lebanese people, at one time court-martialled for desertion -- have entered the city of Sidon. And this means in practice that this same enclave, which was created a few years ago as a gift from the Israelis and which has been supported by the Israelis, is expanding from the south, northwards toward Beirut. And from now on, Haddad, an avowed agent of Israel who faithfully serves his bosses, will control not only An-Nabatiyah and the adjacent small villages in the south of Lebanon, not only the city of Tyre, but also the city of Sidon. And Sidon is a real big city compared with An-Nabatiyah or Tyre. For instance; it is a commercial center and a business center in which a considerable part of the internal economic activities of the Lebanese republic was concentrated.

[Kachanov] Thus, following the revelatory report of the commission which investigated the crimes in the camps of Sabra and Shatila, following the changes in the Israeli Government -- which have changed virtually nothing -- Israel has committed another act, not just of aggression, but aggression which involves the detachment of a considerable part of Lebanese territory, as far as the city of Sidon.

CSCE SUCCESS SEEN DESPITE U.S. 'OBSTRUCTIONISM'

PM181155 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Feb 83 p 9

[Vitaliy Kobysh "Observer's Opinion": "Madrid: Despite American Buffoonery"]

[Text] Unusually optimistic news has come recently from the Spanish capital, where the meeting of representatives of the 35 CSCE participant states has been going on since 11 November 1980, no less. The deadlock has been overcome, so it is reported. It is even being said that very little time remains until the agreed final document is adopted. I would very much like to believe that this is so. Nevertheless, let us delay giving way to excessive optimism for the time being.

It will soon be 2 and 1/2 years since the delegates of the United States and certain countries allied with it, have been engaging in Madrid in something running directly counter to the chief task set at this conference -- they are doing everything to prevent cooperation being organized among European states and their security being strengthened. They are inculcating the spirit of confrontation and enmity among peoples and interfering in their internal affairs.

The methods used, drawn up in advance by the appropriate Washington departments, are depressingly monotonous. Instead of a businesslike, constructive discussion of the chief problems of the continent, where the concentration of combat units and military hardware is 20 times higher than average for the planet and where it is estimated that a "limited" nuclear war, which Washington invented, would kill approximately 170 million people at once, the U.S. representatives, as well as some of those who play up to them, are competing at throwing propaganda balls into the famous "third basket." The Americans, who geographically have nothing to do with our continent and regard it just as a potential "theater of military operations," have made a political basketball out of what the Europeans see as the chief, decisive issue -- how to achieve the creation of a climate of trust in relations among states and what path to take toward military detente.

They think up whatever they like for the sole purpose of dragging out and sidetracking the conference. They resort most frequently to a diversionary maneuver, expatiating about "violations of human rights" in socialist countries. A few days ago Max Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation, laid on a new piece of buffoonery, appearing in the role of a harlequin choked with tears at the very thought of how "human rights are being violated" in the Soviet Union.

Mr Kampelman, fainting with love for your neighbor, if your heart is being broken so by the injustices being perpetrated in the world, why do you not tackle what is closer to you and comes directly within the competence of the administration which you serve? Display an interest, in particular, in the extent to which not only Israeli but also American services were involved in the bloody massacre in the Lebanese camps of Sabra and Shatila. Or inquire how long the genocide in El Salvador will continue with the help of American weapons and instructors. It would also be a good thing for you to gather additional information on how it could happen that U.S. intelligence not only placed under its protection and at its service Barbie, the butcher of thousands of inhabitants of the French city of Lyons, but is even now the paymaster of other Nazi criminals who tortured citizens of other countries, including ours.

But never mind El Salvador or Barbie! With your sensitivity, Max Kampelman, there is no way you can fail to sympathize with your own compatriots. With those 12 million, according to official statistics (20 million according to labor union statistics), for example, who are unemployed, this is, they are social outcasts virtually totally deprived of human rights in your society, which is not overflowing with charity. Add to these 20 million several more tens of millions of members of their families. Is your soul not in torment because of them? Is your heart not breaking with grief, compassionate Mr Kampelman?

You will have a long wait for the truth or a pure word from such as he.... And the truth is that Madrid has stuck in the throat of those who intend to turn West Europe into a dump for American nuclear, chemical and neutron weapons. For them military detente in Europe is a direct obstacle to realizing their innermost plans.

But what, then, is the meaning of the reassuring news coming out of Madrid recently? I will not undertake to give an exhaustive answer. I wish just to draw attention to one aspect which strikes me as important.

The pressure on the U.S. authorities from the antinuclear and antiwar movement which has spread in West Europe, in America itself, in Japan and in other countries, has become so materially palpable and Washington finds it so painful, that under the prevailing conditions it now simply does not dare openly to torpedo the Madrid meeting as well.

In short, if the Madrid meeting comes successfully to a close, it will not be thanks to Washington's good will but despite its obstructionism. Without either exaggerating or belittling anything, there is every reason to keep an attentive eye on the news coming from the Spanish capital.

'More Businesslike' Meeting

LD181337 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Madrid February 18 TASS -- The Madrid meeting of the countries participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe which resumed February 8 today completes the second week of its extensive work on the individual sections of the final document based on the draft tabled by neutral and nonaligned countries. It is noted in the lobbies of the Madrid Congress Palace that the atmosphere at the meeting has somehwat changed for the better and has become more business-like.

EAGLEBURGER ARTICLE ON U.S 'GUARDIANSHIP' HIT

LD201724 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1455 GMT 20 Feb 83

[All Punctuation as Received]

[Text] Moscow, 20 Feb (TASS) -- "Without the United States, Europe will be lost, frightened and profained [porugannyy]. All the French and British nuclear missiles, including those obtained from the United States are trash and will always remain trash. Only U.S. weapons are capable of defending Europe from 'the threat of intimidation.' Washington intends to watch over all in turn, all its nuclear and nonnuclear allies, whether they want it or not. There is no substitute for this guardianship and can be none, neither now nor in the future. Europeans should finally abandon the idea of seeking to consolidate their security by means of cooperation with the USSR and other socialist countries. The United States "will not permit this."

Such is the essence of an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES by L. Eagleburger, U.S. deputy secretary of state for political affairs, Valentin Falin, IZVESTIYA political observer writes.

"It is the United States which must 'guarantee' peace throughout the world," the observer goes on " in some places by force, in others by secret interference in the affairs of others and elsewhere with the aid of 'people and institutes who have taken upon themselves the obligation (to Washington) to facilitate democratic development' American-style. Neither the White House nor the State Department is put out of countenance by the fact that they are encroaching upon the foundations of normal interstate relations "

"Using the Pershings and cruise missiles -- and there are already other first strike weapons systems close on their heels -- the United States is making a desperate attempt to overcome the nuclear strategic stalemate [pat] which takes the sting from the policy of strength, deprives the arms race of ultimate sense and undercuts the roots of Washington's present course which is based on confrontation," the review says. "To break out of the dead end of stalemate, to upset parity, quantitatively and qualitatively, to put all the latest achievements of science and technology in the service of wars on land, at sea and underwater, in the air and in space, to extend military rivalry to every corner of the world and to create threats which are unacceptable to the Soviet Union by also making use of regional factors -- such are the aims and such are the plans."

"Hence the resolve to put the world off the rails [pustit pod otkos] if it does not want to lie in the bed of Procrustes that Washington has prepared for it. Hence the expressions "the United States 'will not tolerate' it, 'will not allow' it."

PRAVDA REBUTS U.S. ALLEGATIONS ON 'FORCED LABOR'

LD190005 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2255 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, 20 Feb (TASS) -- Under the heading "Stepping on the Gas," PRAVDA today publishes the following Rejoinder:

It would seem that the lines had long since been drawn in the White House battle, which ended ingloriously, against the construction of the gas pipeline from the USSR to Western Europe. What truly imperial ambitions were displayed at that time by the Washington administration, which attempted to make its allies renounce their plans for mutually advantageous economic partnership with the Soviet Union. But the allies stood firm and the administrators lost.

One would think it to be in the interests of the Washington administrators themselves to commit this story to oblivion as quickly as possible and not to present themselves further as a general laughingstock and to condemnation. But no, their wounded pride gives them no rest. The main thing is, however, that the construction of the pipeline itself clearly shows the advantage of peaceful cooperation of peoples and not of belligerent confrontation, for which the White House is calling.

And then W. Armstrong, a Republican member of the United States Senate, declared publicly that it was essential -- as he put it -- that it be urgently established whether or not... "forced labor" was being used in construction of the Urengoy-Uzhgorod pipeline. And proposed an appropriate official enquiry. The CIA was then and there dragged into the matter and the inquiry, but there they just shrugged their shoulders: There are no data on the matter. How is that. The administration started up; that cannot be! Well now, set up a special commission and seek out some facts at all costs! Full speed ahead! Step on the gas!

So they set up a commission and they pulled in experts from the White House, the CIA, the Pentagon, the State Department and even the Labor Department. And what came of it? The other day an official report was issued which can best be described in the words of the Western European saying: Too many cooks spoil the broth. The point is that there is just no "cooking fat" in this soup, that is, to put it crudely, no conclusive facts. And indeed, where could they come from? For, as the writer W. Shakespeare commented (also in Western Europe) "nothing will come of nothing."

The report is chronically short on facts, but to make up for this, pathologically rich in figures. The figure 4,000,000 has been taken out of thin air -- from where else? It means that this amount of people carry out "forced labor" in the USSR. This, of course, is according to U.S. specialists.

Oh, Mr Armstrong! If you only knew, while striving to expose this terrible Russian construction site, what consequences it would have. After all, it is your fault that the gigantic construction site of the gas pipeline, which is constantly being visited by representatives of Western firms and the mass media of almost the whole world, and which is shown widely every day in the press and on television, has suddenly turned into a gloomy place of forced labor behind bars. Aren't you ashamed Senator? No, not a bit, grins the congressman. You'll learn how to build.

Fair enough. Let us leave the hapless senator. To be sure, it is plain that he is not what matters. He is merely the fuse for the "bomb" which has been clumsily knocked together and set up by the White House and to which a match has been set by the experienced hand of an incendiary. This in the hope that this further anti-Soviet charge will be able one more time to poison the atmosphere in Europe and impede the processes of continuing and developing normal interstate ties. To be sure the latter does not suit the gentlemen in Washington. It even forces them to make things up and juggle the facts in such an impudent way.

TASS on 'Slave Labor'

LD181401 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 18 TASS -- TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes:

It has become a sort of rule that the more setbacks the present Washington administration suffers in its home and foreign policy, the worse become the social and economic contradictions and conflicts that are virtually tearing the United States apart, the more tempted becomes Washington to slander others, to try to divert the attention of the American and world public by circulating inventions about socialist states. The latest confirmation of this is the anti-Soviet pasquinade which, as is reported, has been fabricated by the United States Department of State and is devoted to the theme of..."forced labour in the USSR."

The "position of Soviet prison inmates" who supposedly comprise the "main reserve of manpower" in the USSR and on whom the state of the Soviet economy all but depends is described in every way in this "study" that is totally in line with the anti-communist "crusade" announced by Ronald Reagan in London last year.

Are there any facts, any evidence? Of course not and could not be. No matter how hard the authors of the "report" tried to give their slanderous creation a semblance of truthfulness they could not invent anything to "substantiate" their inventions except references to anonymous "specialists", who make their living from anti-communism, and articles from some right-wing Western newspapers known for their anti-Sovietism. And it is attempted to pass this cheap hodge-podge of deliberate lies and misinformation for a "document" designed to "expose" Moscow as a "violator of human rights."

The inventions of the State Department of the United States are so absurd and prejudiced that there really is no need to refute them. But one can say the following: If some high-placed people in Washington are really concerned about the problem of forced labour and the living conditions of prisoners they can get the necessary facts, not invented but real facts, in any amount at home and not in distant lands.

It is known that the United States has more of its citizens behind bars than any other capitalist state with the exception, perhaps, of the racist Republic of South Africa. It is known, and this was admitted by none other than the former United States ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young, that there are thousands of political prisoners in the United States. The American press has reported more than once on the terrible, inhuman conditions in which prisoners are held in the United States, on uprisings, mutinies and hunger strikes by prisoners who have been driven to despair by warders, on the use of prisoners in the most arduous and dangerous jobs. When describing the situation at a penitentiary in Arkansas, where more than 200 prisoners work 12 hours a day in the cotton fields, without being paid a cent for their backbreaking labour, TIME magazine wrote that it was like a 20th century slave plantation. It was also reported that at least 160 people died during "prison disorders" in 24 states of the country in the period from 1970 alone. Why have all these shocking facts dropped out of the field of vision of the champions of "human rights" at the U.S. State Department?

And another thing. Although the army of the unemployed in the United States has exceeded 12 million, every year hundreds of thousands of citizens of other countries (in particular, Mexico), the so called Chicanos, are brought legally or illegally into the country and like millions of Americans -- blacks, Puerto Ricans, etc. -- are doomed to total rightlessness and are subjected to most terrible, inhuman exploitation. At present, the press reports, there are up to 12 million immigrants in the United States who have been literally sold out without any time limit to the owners of enterprises, fruit and cotton plantations and are actually in the position of slaves who are humiliated, beaten up and are not paid even the paltry sums that are theirs under contract. Is this not real and truly large-scale forced labour?

Not to say that the totally hypocritical lamentations of the State Department about "violations of human rights" in the USSR sound really blasphemously considering that they are emanating from a country whose government, as evidenced by Senator Edward Kennedy, is the most anti-labour government in America's entire post-war history; from a country where the powers that be have created a powerful state system of legalised arbitrariness that ruthlessly crushes any dissent; from a country where despite huge gaps in the budget, money is nevertheless found not only for the upkeep of almost 5,000 prisons, but also for building more than 700 new places of detention.

The latest soap bubble that the United States Deparment of State had tried to blow has burst, and the dirty drops of this bubble are flying in the direction of those who tried to use it. And that's that.

REAGAN RADIO ADDRESS REPEATS OLD ARMS RACE AIMS

LD201826 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1615 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, 20 Feb (TASS) -- TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev writes:

President Reagan took advantage of the 251st anniversary of the birth of George Washington to appear on American radio with a call to the U.S. people to support his plans for an unrestrained increase in military expenditure. This speech in defense of a further expansion of the arms race by the United States contained his usual selection of "arguments" -- the same old "Soviet military threat," though now, it is true, "here at home in our own Western hemisphere," the same anecdote about the young American pilot flying an old aircraft, the same stories about how for the last 20 years United States has allegedly "restricted its efforts" in the military sphere.

The only deviation from the stereotype of public statements about the "Soviet military threat" that the President permitted himself consisted in the fact that he did not venture to repeat his fantastic declaration to the effect that the "Soviet Union has an advantage over the United States in virtually all indices of military might."

Reagan, however, would not be Reagan if he were to start giving a sober assessment of the military balance between the USSR and United States. "They (the Soviet Union) [TASS parens] surpass us to a considerable degree in the manufacture of almost all types of weapons," the President could not resist saying.

On the whole, the President's statement about the "Soviet military threat" contained nothing new and, of course, was not backed up by any proof that was in any way convincing -- nor could it be.

This speech is of interest from another point of view. This is the first time the President has admitted so frankly that "now is a difficult time to call for an increase in military expenditure and that he finds it "hard to address such a plea to American families who are already making sacrifices as a result of the economic decline."

As is known, the course of "buns instead of butter" proclaimed by Reagan even during the 1980 election campaign is meeting with serious opposition not only among ordinary Americans but also in the U.S. Congress, which previously was glad to satisfy all the White House's demands for increases in military expenditure.

It is to be noted that the U.S. President only mentioned in passing the talks on arms limitation and reduction that are currently being held in Geneva and Vienna, and then only in order to repeat his old thesis alleging that the best way to disarmament lies in stepping up armaments. Thus he again demonstrated his disregard for the interests of the security of his own people.

Reagan is constantly repeating that he "has lived through two world wars," pretending without any grounds to the role of a seer capable of teaching peoples how problems of war and peace should be solved. His latest radio address was no exception.

The present U.S. Administration's course of developing the nuclear arms race, of achieving military superiority at any price, shows the loss by the current U.S. leaders of any feeling of the realities of the nuclear age; it shows their extremely frivolous attitude to the consequences of the catastrophe that might befall our planet as a result of implementation of their plans for a "crusade" against communism.

'Invest' in Military Budget

LD201311 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1128 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] Washington, 20 Feb (TASS) -- Coming up against growing opposition on the part of millions of Americans to his overtly militarist course, U.S. President R. Reagan has tried again to justify it in a radio address.

A set of pretty threadbare propaganda devices was put into operation. Thus, if one is to believe the President, Washington, in forging ahead with an arms race unprecedented in scale, is supposedly fulfilling some kind of "moral commitment" to the present and coming generations. "Readiness for war is the most effective means of preserving peace," Reagan asserted cynically, asking Americans to support White House efforts aimed, as he put it, at multiplying "investments in the military budget."

This kind of "capital investment", as is known, will require over the coming 5-year period around $2 trillion from the American taxpayer, and it will be put primarily into programs for developing the strategic nuclear potential of the United States and implementing projects for developing qualitatively new weapons systems designed to deliver a first nuclear strike, in other words, into open preparation for aggression.

The chief of the White House could not fail to acknowledge that such massed military preparations have already resulted in catastrophic consequences for America and the Americans.

I understand, Reagan said, how difficult a time it is now to request an even greater increase of allocations to the Pentagon. It is not easy to ask this of American families who are already victims of the present slump, or of American businessmen, desperately trying to "invest in the future." However, having acknowledged this, Reagan asserted that the current spending on the arms race (?is) only "a necessary minimum." Moreover, he made malicious attacks on those who are demanding a substantial reduction of military allocations, and reached the point of accusing arms control supporters of virtually betraying the national interests of the United States.

R. Byrd, leader of the Democratic minority in the Senate, categorically rejected Reagan's "arguments." He said that assertions by the head of the White House that the United States will face a real threat if it fails to increase allocations to the Pentagon and push ahead with the arms race "do not correspond to reality." The true interests of the United States, declared the Senator, can be assured only if the economic situation is favorable. But the economic situation cannot be righted when the policy of the present administration -- based on increasing military expenditure and reducing taxes paid by the rich -- is leading to a gigantic growth in the federal budget deficit. R. Byrd demanded that the White House end its "economic experiments," a result of which, in particular is the country's level of unemployment, a record level for many decades.

LEADER SPEECHES SHOW 'CRUSADE AGAINST COMMUNISM'

LD191145 Moscow TASS in English 1042 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 19 TASS -- The Reagan Administration is bent on pushing forward its "crusade against communism" by both stepping up psychological war operations and by spurring on the arms race. This is seen from President Reagan's speech Friday at the ultra rightists' conservative political action conference.

He openly spoke about how his administration had floated lies and slander about socialism, without concealing that the ultimate goal of U.S. imperialism is to destabilise the socialist countries and even replace the socialist state system there by capitalism.

Ronald Reagan made it clear that he believed subversive radio propaganda broadcasts the main tool of psychological war against the socialist countries. He also urged a continued U.S. military buildup.

This theme was further amplified by Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who in his speech tried to exonerate U.S. feverish war preparations by alleging the existence of a mythical Soviet military threat and citing "data" about the Soviet Union's defense spending and its defense industry, that had been spun out of thin air. He emphatically stressed his opposition to any cuts in military appropriations, which in fiscal 1984 will reach a total of 280 billion dollars, or more than 28 per cent of all U.S. budgetary expenditures. The Pentagon chief said that the U.S. Armed Forces, first of all the strategic nuclear forces, were now being busily upgraded. He said that the newly-developed B-1 strategic bomber would soon fly its first mission and that the first two Trident-class nuclear-powered missile-carrying submarines had been commissioned. Weinberger also sharply criticised Congress for delaying the deployment of the new MX strategic missile system.

Secretary of State George Shultz in his speech and answers to questions, heaped praise upon U.S. policy from the position of strength. The President, he said, was making tremendous emphasis on strength for which there was no substitute. There was no foreign policy for the United States if it was not strong, he added. George Shultz also repeated mendacious allegations about Bulgaria's "involvement" in international terrorism. But he passed over in silence the United States' real, not mythical, uses of terror as a tool for implementing its international policy, the uses which have been proved by documented evidence. The secretary of state also emphasised that the United States would escalate, in the framework of its "crusade against communism", so-called "public diplomacy", which was designed by Washington as a means of undermining the foundations of international relations and crudely interferring in the affairs of other states.

BOMB BLASTS WASHINGTON AEROFLOT OFFICE 17 FEB

LD191624 Moscow TASS in English 1448 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 19 TASS -- A bomb was exploded at the entrance to the Aeroflot office in Washington on February 17. Much damage was done to the building. No one was hurt. The Soviet Embassy in the United States has demanded that the State Department immediately adopt additional measures to ensure the security of the Soviet offices in the United States.

U.S. 'FLEXIBILITY' AT ARMS TALKS ONLY 'RUMORS'

LD200036 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2330 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, 20 Feb (TASS) -- The West's mass information media have recently been trumpeting with increasing intensity rumors according to which the United States -- as if meeting the wishes of its West European allies -- is preparing to display "flexibility" on the problem of limiting nuclear weapons in Europe. The paper PRAVDA writes: No one should have any illusions on this score: at the talks in Geneva, the U.S. delegation is defending only the notorious "zero option," as before. Thus, the rumors that are being spread are no more than the latest trick -- intended to reassure the alarmed public, deceive it and to bide time in order to obtain a pretext for the deployment of its missiles in Europe.

U.S. policy has taught people vigilance. Peoples are increasingly insistently demanding from the United States an honest, businesslike and constructive approach to the talks that are being conducted.

KAMENTSEV CONTINUES USSR-JAPAN FISHERY TALKS

'Positive Nature of Cooperation'

OW190616 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Report by Radio Moscow Tokyo Correspondent Vykhukahalev]

[Text] Japanese-Soviet negotiations on cooperation in fishing began in Tokyo on 17 February. Our correspondent Vykhukahalev has filed the following report from Tokyo:

In the fishing talks, the USSR is represented by Minister of the Fish Industry Vladimir Kamentsev, who is visiting Japan at the invitation of the Japanese Government, and Japan is represented by Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries Minister Iwazo Kaneko.

In his opening address, Kaneko noted his deep satisfaction with the fact that the talks on salmon fishing and negotiations on the extension of the Moscow and Tokyo agreements in recent years were held in a friendly atmosphere, and that the two sides arrived at settlements in those negotiations in a considerably shorter period of time than before. He expressed his expectation that the Soviet authorities and Fish Industry Minister Kamentsev in particular would continue to help speed up negotiations between the two governments in the future for a quick settlement.

Kaneko also expressed his gratitude to the USSR for the release of all the 29 Japanese fishermen, who had been captured while engaged in illegal fishing inside the Soviet territorial waters, by a special pardon on 30 December 1982, marking the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR.

Kamentsev in his response thanked the Japanese side for the hospitality accorded the Soviet delegation since its arrival in Japan at the invitation of the Japanese Government.

He then said: The geographical proximity of the two nations, their joint utilization of marine resources in the northwestern Pacific and other ocean areas, and their jointly-assumed responsibility for the preservation of resources and their effective use in those areas, constitute a factor insuring the development, deepening and stabilization of fishery cooperation between the USSR and Japan. Under circumstances where legal systems governing fishing had changed, the USSR and Japan established new systems of bilateral relations and were thus able to guarantee regular jobs for fishermen. Following the creation of the 200-mile sea limits, the USSR and Japan were able -- ahead of other countries -- to make comprehensive arrangements between them for fishermen to carry on their regular fishing operations in their traditional fishing areas. From our many years of experience in implementing the bilateral agreements, we can point out the positive nature of the cooperation in fishing developing between the USSR and Japan.

Joint Enterprise Proposed

LD201454 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Comrade Kamentsev, USSR Minister of the Fish Industry, during talks in Tokyo has proposed to the Japanese side that a joint Soviet-Japanese fishing enterprise be created. Similar joint enterprises, notes the KYODO Tsushin Agency, already exist between the Soviet Union and the United States and France. Mutually beneficial cooperation, which is expected, will receive a new boost as a result of the forthcoming visit to Moscow by a Japanese business delegation and will gain from the development of ties in such an important field to Japan as fishing.

Kamentsev Interview

OW190524 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 2250 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Recorded interview with Soviet Minister of the Fish Industry Vladimir Kametsev, by NHK Foreign News Department Reporter Lida on 18 February -- place of interview not indicated; interview conducted in Russian, with Japanese translations of Lida's questions provided in subtitles and Kamentsev's answers fading into Japanese translations]

[Text] [Question] Mr Minister, I think this is your first time in Japan.

[Answer] Yes, this is my first visit to Japan. This is only my third day in this country and I have had no time yet to look around. I have met and talked with many people, however. All those I met were kind and I am very pleased.

[Question] As you know, we are aware that your government has initiated a drive for upping seafood consumption. In your assessment, how successful is this drive?

[Answer] We have not yet achieved complete success. It takes a drive to succeed. As in Japan, however, fish has become an important food to the Soviet people. Marine products already account for 20 percent of the Soviet diet.

[Question] How do you assess the current and future prospects for cooperation in fishing between Japan and the USSR?

[Answer] Cooperation in fishing between the two countries is based on the principles of friendship and reciprocity. Our cooperation has a long history of tens of years. A broad range of cooperative ties exist between Japan and the USSR. The Soviet Union has very good relations with a large number of Japanese organizations, including trading firms with interests in fisheries and fishermen's cooperatives. The existing ties are deepening and continuing to expand. Furthermore, we are continuing our vigorous cooperation with many international fishery organizations. Speaking of our assessment of bilateral cooperation, the USSR highly appreciates the cooperation in fishing between our two nations. Regarding future prospects, we think that we can cooperate in the survey and assessment of fishing resources. We also think that the expansion of cooperation is possible. Whatever problems may occur, and however complicated they may be, we would like to work for a solution to satisfy the fishermen of both Japan and the USSR, as we did in the past.

[Question] Please tell me whether the Soviet Union is ready for a long-term fishery agreement between the USSR and Japan.

[Answer] Many agreements exist between Japan and the USSR. For example, the treaty on which the salmon agreement is based is renewable every 5 years. The reason why the Japan-USSR fishing agreement is subject to renewal every year is that when the first agreement was concluded, the international conference on the Law of the Sea had not yet reached a conclusion and there had been no legal basis available for a longer-term agreement. Since the problem has been settled now, it can be said that basic preparations have been made for the conclusion of a more stable agreement. I and agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Kaneko have already discussed the question of a longer-term agreement; and, in this connection, I feel that more stable agreements should be concluded in very area of our relations. In a counterproposal, we have proposed a Japan-Soviet joint fisheries venture, which will be in the interest of the Soviet and Japanese fishermen.

USSR Minister Views Talks

OW190348 Tokyo KYODO in English 0331 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo Feb 19 KYODO -- Soviet fisheries minister Vladimir Kamentsev said the Soviet Union wants to see the cooperation with Japan in the fisheries industry further develop "in all directions." He specifically predicted that the current provisional fisheries agreement between the two countries will be made into a longer-term pact to put the bilateral cooperation on a stable basis once the Law of the Sea takes effect.

Kamentsev expressed the strong desire to improve the tie in that industry between Tokyo and Moscow in an exclusive interview with KYODO news service Friday night. His remarks were taken by diplomatic observers here as indicative of the Kremlin's general stance toward Japan at a time when Russo-Japanese relations have been grown [as received] chillier over the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

Kamentsev, visiting Japan as the first Soviet minister since the Afghan intervention, said the relations between Japan and the Soviet Union in the fisheries sector developed steadily in the past and are progressing at present. "What prompts the progress is flexible legal bases," which help the two countries to solve a wide range of problems. to develop dialogue on the reasonable regulations and utilization of marine resources of the northern Pacific, and to develop technical and economic cooperation, he said.

"The Soviet Union is ready to further develop the cooperative relations (with Japan) on a mutually beneficial basis," the minister said. In his talks in Tokyo with his Japanese counterpart Iwazo Kaneko and other Japanese officials, one of the major topics is a Japanese proposal for extension of the bilateral fisheries agreement designed to control the fishing within the 200-mile economic zones of both countries, both giant fisheries countries in the world. The agreement was reached in 1977 on a temporary basis and has since then been subject to renewal every year. "The Japanese proposal was nothing new for us," said Kamentsev.

The only reason for the current form of fishing under the provisional agreement is that the work on the third Law of the Sea has not been completed at the United Nations, he said. He continued, "It would be possible to place the 1977 agreement on a longer-term foundation," once the law of the sea goes into effect after a majority of the nations sign and ratify the treaty. It is generally believed it will take at least two or three years before the international convention becomes effective.

Kamentsev stressed the significance of promoting cooperation between Japan and Soviet Union in concrete terms, noting that he made a proposal to the Japanese side for the establishment of a joint venture chiefly aimed at joint marketing of fish catches. "Joint investment into such an enterprise will widen the scope of cooperation," he said.

Discussing whaling, Kamentsev criticized a resolution adopted by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) last July, which effectively bans the commercial whaling after 1986. The Soviet Union and Japan, along with other big whaling countries, voted against the resolution, but failed to defeat it. "In our view, the IWC resolution is lacking scientific data and is running counter to the principle and the purpose of the 1946 international whaling treaty," the Soviet minister said. At the forthcoming IWC meeting, scheduled for July, the Soviet Union will emphasize the need for scientific approach in the assessment of marine resources, he said.

JAPANESE ATTITUDE ON TRADE WITH USSR SCORED

OW190558 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 17 Feb 83

[Tokyo correspondent Vladimir Tsvetov's report]

[Text] A Japanese Foreign Ministry official gave a speech to the members of a Japanese trade and economic delegation that is scheduled to visit the Soviet Union. Our Tokyo correspondent Vladimir Tsvetov has filed the following report:

Yoshiya Kato, Director of the European and Asian Affairs Bureau, asked the delegation not to be too eager in signing new contracts with the Soviet Union. Such a demand is completely paradoxical, asking a trading firm to refrain from engaging in business is tantamount to asking the Foreign Ministry to refrain from promoting relations with other countries -- which is the ministry's original task -- but to concentrate on undermining such relations instead.

Director Kato has also asked the delegation to take the government policy into consideration while conducting negotiations in Moscow. That is to say, he reminded the delegation of the groundless claim over the northern territories. He also urged that political considerations should never be separated from economic interests. In other words, the director of the Foreign Ministry's European and Asian Affairs Bureau has asked the businessmen not to give up the hopeless territorial claim even at the expense of their own profits.

The Japanese business circles suffered utter failure by responding to the U.S. demand for economic sanctions against the Soviet Union in the wake of the Afghanistan issue. Director Kato has attempted to persuade these businessmen into repeating the same mistake. As is well known to all, including Mr Kato himself, the Soviet Union suffered no loss at all as a result of the economic sanctions. To the contrary, the Japanese trading firms lost large orders to their West European rivals, knowing it all the while. Needless to say, failure in securing orders from the Soviet Union resulted in reduced job opportunities and an impoverished life for workers at the plants connected with these firms.

Nevertheless, Mr Kato was not the only one demanding that the trade relations with the Soviet Union should be linked with Japan's claims to Soviet territory. This demand was first mentioned by none other than U.S. Secretary of State Shultz during his talks in Tokyo not long ago. Speaking in the same tone as Director Kato of the European and Asian Affairs Bureau, Secretary Shultz insinuated that the upcoming visit to Moscow by the economic and trade delegation would not be of much significance to Japan's trade.

However, it is not difficult to make out the meaning of Secretary Shultz' allusion. He harbors the idea that if Japan should lose the Soviet market, which is capable of taking the place of the American market, it would be easier for the United States to force Japan to accept its demands in connection with trade. Still, we find it hard to understand the action taken and remarks made by the official of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, who should look after the interests of Japan and certainly not the interests of the United States.

NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO MONGOLIA APPOINTED

OW182030 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1718 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, February 18 (MONTSAME) -- Sergey Pavlov has been appointed Soviet Ambassador to Mongolia. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has released former Soviet Ambassador to Mongolia A. Smirnov from his duties in connection with the latter's transition to another post.

REPORTAGE ON TIKHONOV'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO GREECE

Departs for Greece

LD210917 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Nikolay Tikhonov, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, left for Athens today on an official visit at the invitation of the Greek Government.

At Vnukovo Airport he was seen off by Geydar Aliyev, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Boris Ponomarev, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Comrade Antonov, Kostandov, Marchuk, Novikov, Nuriyev, Smirnov and Talyzin, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, Comrade Smirtyukov, administrator of affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers, ministers of the USSR and other officials.

The seeing-off party included Pericles Tsamulis, charge d'affaires ad interim of Greece in the Soviet Union.

Met by Papandreou

LD211130 Moscow TASS in English 1034 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Athens February 21 TASS -- Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived in Athens today for an official visit at the invitation of the Greek Government.

The distinguished guest was welcomed at Athens airport by Prime Minister of Greece Andreas Papandreou, Foreign Affairs Minister Ioannis Kharalambopoulos, and other officials. The welcoming party included the USSR's ambassador to Greece Vladimir Kaboshkin.

The state flags of the USSR and Greece were hoisted at the airport. The national athems of the two countries were performed.

Nikolay Tikhonov and Andreas Papandreou reviewed the guard of honour.

Talks with Papandreou Open

NC211847 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1800 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Bilateral and international issues were discussed at the first round of Greek-Soviet talks that opened this afternoon at Maximos Palace between the two countries' delegations headed by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Tikhonov. In this connection, Hellenic radio-television correspondent Spiros Metaxas reports:

[Begin recording] The Greek-Soviet talks began a few hours after the arrival in Athens of Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and members of the delegation accompanying him.

At 1730 today, Prime Minister Papandreou welcomed Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at Maximos Palace and then the first phase of the Greek-Soviet talks began.

The two countries' delegations, headed by Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Tikhonov, exchanged at this first meeting views on bilateral and international issues.

Participating in the Greek delegation were Foreign Minister Ioannis Kharalambopoulos, National Economy Alternate Minister Ioannis Pottakis and Deputy Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias; in the Soviet delegation were First Deputy Foreign Minister Maltsev, First Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Komarov and Morozov, first deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. Other officials of both countries also participated in the delegations.

At the end of the first phase of the Greek-Soviet talks, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou made the following statement:

[Papandreou] Naturally, this meeting is of particular significance because this is the first time a meeting between a Greek and Soviet prime minister is taking place on Greek territory. We have had the opportunity to review the international situation -- we first, on the one hand and they on the other. Only Mr Tikhonov and myself spoke, as it is customary at these first meeting. We also talked about bilateral relations, but these will be -- they have already been -- the subject of a big and detailed process and, during private discussions tomorrow, both of us will fill the gaps. I believe the prevailing international issues are the Geneva talks and nuclear arms. Concerning our area, naturally on our part the two major issues are Cyprus and the Aegean issues which, of course, have been raised for discussion but, of course, within the limits of 1 and 1/2 hours nobody expects that there would be a detailed analysis [words indistinct]. At any rate, I am, I believe we can say, satisfied. The substantive work has already been done at the level of experts -- ministers with specific jurisdictions. Tonight we will have an exchange of toasts which, of course, will be released or have been released for publication. Tomorrow, the agreements that we have will be signed and, of course, there will be a joint communique which, naturally, has been agreed upon and is very satisfactory as far as the Greek side is concerned. [Metaxas] at 1000 tomorrow, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and his Soviet counterpart, Nikolay Tikhonov, will hold private talks at Maximos Palace which will continue later with the participation of the two delegations' members. [end recording]

Tikhonov Dinner Speech

LD211923 Moscow TASS in English 1847 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Athens Feburary 21 TASS -- When one stays in the land of ancient Hellas and is familiarised with its present-day life, one feels in a special way the ties of time, the outstanding role of Greece in the emergence and development of modern civilisation, the striving of the Greek people for peace and goodneighbourliness. This sensation increases our feeling of gratification for the invitation to visit your remarkable country, for the warmth and generosity of the welcome that is accorded us, said Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at a dinner given in his honour today by Andreas Papandreou, prime minister of Greece. I would like to express gratitude to you, Mr. Prime Minister, for the kind words you said about my country, about the Soviet people, said Nikolay Tikhonov.

The talks that began today in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and good will reflect, as we see it, our common striving to advance along the road of further strengthening friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Greece.

Our friendship with Greece is of long standing. It is rooted in the eventful history of the political, trade, cultural and spiritual ties between the two countries. Suffice it to recall the time when the Greek people was struggling for national independence and its own statehood.

Today, too, the bonds of traditional friendship and profound mutual sympathy serve as a firm foundation of Soviet-Greek relations.

And the principle of the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems is becoming filled with ever fuller and extensive material content in the development of these relations.

Our policy in respect of Greece, said chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, is based on the community of interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Greece in the strengthening of peace and security in Europe and in the whole world, their joint striving to develop the process of detente and extensive international cooperation. Self-interest and transient considerations are alien to it.

We note with satisfaction that the practical steps of both sides directed at developing Soviet-Greek cooperation are bringing new tangible results. They enrich the process of the fulfillment of the declaration on principles and the further development of good-neighbourly friendly relations and on political, economic and cultural cooperation, that was signed in 1979.

During our recent meeting with you, Mr Prime Minister, in Moscow we noted the existence of favourable possibilities for the further development of Soviet-Greek cooperation in various fields.

Our talks today confirm the constructive nature of such an approach based on the desire of both sides to make maximum use of the wealth of possbilities to deepen and expand the range of our relations, to consolidate their contractural basis.

We assess positively the state and prospects of Soviet-Greek trade, economic, scientific and technical ties which are of a mutually advantageous and equal nature. The substantial increase in the volume of trade and the construction of a number of energy projects in Greece are a visible result of our cooperation.

The long-term program of developing cooperation in the field of economy, industry, science and technology, which we envisage to sign during the visit, will open up new possibilities in this direction.

The situation in the world at this moment, marked by a growth of international tension, affects the interests of all countries and peoples as it never did in the past, pointed out Nikolay Tikhonov.

As a result of the further activisation of the aggressive forces the development of world events is acquiring an ever more dangerous nature and the threat to peace is growing.

The arms race is going into a qualitatively new, much more sinister phase. Along with old seats of tension new conflicts and crisis situations are flaring up.

The year 1983 is acquiring special importance in the struggle to avert nuclear war. In the event of the fulfillment of the NATO plans providing for the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear weapons in some West European countries the situation in europe, and not only in Europe, would sharply deteriorate.

This is how the question now stands: either agreement on a large-scale reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons involving both missiles and nuclear-capable planes, and on conditions of full equality between the USSR and the NATO countries, or a lost opportunity to reach agreement and a new spiral of the arms race.

The Soviet side stands for the former because that road leads to peace in Europe and accords with the interests of the peoples. At the same time we see that there exist forces which opt for the second road. It is these forces that want to disrupt the existing strategic balance and conduct international affairs from a position of diktat. They are strangers to the interests of peace and progress.

It is believed in the Soviet Union that the present alarming course of events must and can be stopped by the concerted efforts of the peoples, of all who treasure peace. These forces are more powerful than the forces of war and confrontation.

A real alternative to the nuclear war danger does exist. It is peaceful coexistence, disarmament and mutually advantageous cooperation. And it is this that determines the essence of the course pursued by Soviet foreign policy.

The USSR has unilaterally assumed the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear arms. Now it is up to all the other nuclear powers, which have not yet acted likewise, to do the same.

The proposals set forth lately by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov clearly show that our peaceloving course in international affairs will be further pursued consistently, dynamically and purposefully.

In their Prague Political Declaration the Warsaw Treaty member-states came out with new peace initiatives. Of special importance among them is the proposal to conclude a treaty on the non-use of military force and on the maintenance of relations of peace between the member states of the Warsaw Treaty and the member states of the North Atlantic treaty.

We highly value the position of the Greek Government which has positively responded to this major initiative, Nikolay Tikhonov stressed.

The advantages of solving ripe issues at the table of negotiations have been convincingly demonstrated by experience of the past decade.

It is necessary to consoliate and multiply everything positive that has been achieved in international relations in the period of the 1970s. This requires constructive efforts by all countries, both big and small.

The statements and efforts going in this direction by the Greek Government, its head Mr. Andreas Papandreou, especially in what concerns the consolidation of detente, the ending of the arms race, the assertion of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and the development of extensive international cooperation, are welcomed in the Soviet Union.

Such efforts are of special importance in the European continent. The turning of Europe from a cradle of civilisation and culture into a testing range of atomic, neutron and chemical death, into an arena of a "limited" or all-out nuclear war, into a burial vault for hundreds of millions of people must be prevented.

The Soviet Union stands for a Europe free of nuclear weapons.

In this respect we welcome the ideas to create nuclear-free zones in various parts of the continent, including in the north of Europe and in the Balkans.

Our approach is similar in respect of other areas as well.

We stand for the turning of the Mediterranean area into a zone of stable peace and cooperation, the head of the Soviet Government went on. The USSR has repeatedly made concrete proposals on this score. They all remain in force.

The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that relaxation of tension in the continent accords with the interests of all the European states and peoples.

We stand for the convocation of a conference on confidence-building measures and on security and disarmament in Europe, for the successful conclusion of the Madrid meeting.

The liquidation of existing seats of tension and the peaceful settlement of crisis situations is of much importance. This fully relates to the problem of Cyprus.

The Soviet Union invariably comes out in support of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, respects its policy of non-alignment, supports a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem on the basis of the corresponding United Nations resolutions, by way of talks with due account for the lawful interests of both communities.

We stand for the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the liquidation of foreign military bases on Cyprus.

In our opinion, the holding of a representative international conference on Cyprus within the framework of the United Nations organization would enhance a just settlement of the Cyprus problem.

The talks that have begun confirm that the positions of the USSR and Greece and the main questions of the development of bilateral relations and on a number of international questions indicate the possibility of cooperation in the interests of strengthening peace, detente and disarmament.

We are convinced that the present talks will strengthen this mutual understanding and expand its sphere.

Nikolay Tikhonov raised a toast to the health of the head of the Greek Government Mr. Andreas Papandreou, to the health of the Greek representatives who were present here, to the further development of the traditional bonds of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Greek Republic, between the Soviet and Greek peoples, to peace in the whole world.

Report on Talks

LD212211 Moscow TASS in English 2126 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Athens February 21 TASS -- Talks have begun here today between Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and Andreas Papandreou, prime minister of Greece.

In the course of the talks, which passed in a friendly atmosphere and in the spirit of mutual understanding, the sides discussed the condition of and possibilities for the further extension of bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and Greece and the outstanding problems of the present-day international situation.

Nikolay Tikhonov and Andreas Papandreou expressed satisfaction with the progress of friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and Greece, cooperation based on good traditions. Today it embraces virtually all the areas of state-to-state relations, including politics, trade, the economy, technology, culture and science. The Soviet-Greek declaration on the principles and further extension of goodneighbourly relations, signed on October 2, 1979, has a major role to play in this field.

Inter-governmental agreements on economic, industrial and technical cooperation, a treaty on legal aid in civil and criminal litigation, agreements on cooperation in television and radio broadcasting and on the principles of cooperation between sports organisations have been signed during this period.

Mixed Soviet-Greek commissions for economic and industrial cooperation, cultural contacts, scientific and technical cooperation and merchant marine are operating successfully on the basis of the existing agreements.

The two heads of government voiced the mutual desire of their countries to continue to develop and strengthen bilateral relations of friendship. They noted in this connection that there were no contentious issues between the USSR and Greece which could hamper such progress.

The sides stated that the further extension of traditional mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and Greece was meeting both the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the tasks of strengthening peace and security in Europe and all over the world.

Nikolay Tikhonov and Andreas Papandreou voiced concern with the aggravation of international tension. They agreed that the most important task today was the removal of the threat of nuclear war, the ending of the arms race, disarmament, the maintenance of the policy of detente and the strengtheing of world peace. In this context the Soviet head of government explained the essence of the foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union, put forward by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The Greek side had its attention drawn to the proposals made in the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries and particularly to the proposal on concluding a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and maintenance of relations of peace between the NATO countries and the Warsaw Treaty members. The implementation of these proposals would provide conditions for tranquil life of people without fear for the future in Europe and in other continents.

The Greek side considers these proposals positive and worthy of serious examination.

Nikolay Tikhonov and Andreas Papandreou spoke in favour of achieving mutually acceptable and fair agreements at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms and on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe. They believe it important to ensure the constructive completion of the Madrid meeting and the adoption by it of a mutually acceptable and well-balanced final document, including the decision to convene a conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe.

Nikolay Tikhonov stressed the importance of the new Soviet proposals on mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments in central Europe that had been tabled by the Soviet delegation in Vienna.

Due attention was paid to the situation in the Middle East. The sides spoke in favour of the need to continue efforts to achieve a comprehensive Mideastern settlement and voiced solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

They exchanged opinions on certain aspects of the situation in the Mediterranean.

The participants in the talks included:

On the Soviet side -- V.F. Maltsev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR; N.D. Komarov, first deputy minister of foreign trade of the USSR; V.G. Morozov, first deputy chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for External Economic Relations; V.F. Kaboshkin, ambassador of the USSR to Greece; V.F. Grubyakov and D.S. Nikoforov, department heads of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR and other officials.

On the Greek side -- J. Kharalambopoulos, minister of foreign affairs; I. Pottakis, deputy national economics minister; K. Papoulas, deputy minister of foreign affairs; D. Polichronopoulos, general secretary of the Ministry of Power and Natural Resources; A. Metaxas, ambassador of Greece to the USSR; and other officials.

The talks will be continued.

Visits Parliament

LD221213 Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Athens February 22 TASS -- Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is on an official visit here at the invitation of the Greek Government, today laid a wreath to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

A guard of honour was lined up and the national anthem of the Soviet Union and Greece were played.

The head of the Soviet Government paid tribute by a minute of silence to the memory of the Greek patriots who fell in the struggle for their homeland's honour and independence.

Nikolay Tikhonov visited the Greek Parliament. He was welcomed by the Chairman of Parliament Ioannis Alevras and other leading officials of the country's supreme legistlative body.

The big importance of inter-parliamentary ties for the further development of good-neighbourly relations between the Soviet Union and Greece was noted in the course of a friendly conversation.

The sides agreed that in conditions of the present aggravation of the international situation the parliaments of all countries face the task of vigorously contributing to efforts to ensure security in the world, end the arms race and avert the threat of nuclear war.

Nikolay Tikhonov wished all deputies of the Greek Parliament successes in their activities to strengthen peace and develop friendly cooperation among nations.

PRAVDA CITED ON USSR-GREEK RELATIONS

LD211022 Moscow TASS in English 0924 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 21 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA today publishes a dispatch from its Athens correspondents V. Menshikov and N. Miroshnik. Headlined "Developing the Traditions of Goodneighbourliness" and spotlighting the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Greece, the article is timed for the beginning visit to friendly Greece by Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

"The peoples of the Soviet Union and Greece have long been bound by friendly relations," the article emphasises. "This was the case both in the 1820's when Russia helped Greece to win freedom and independence and in the years of World War II when the Soviet Union, smashing Hitlerite occupation troops and their henchmen, helped the Greek people to liberate themselves from Nazi tyranny."

"Our Athens interlocuters", the PRAVDA correspondents say, "have been openly satisfied with the manifold, equal and mutually beneficial relations that have taken shape between the Soviet Union and Greece and noted the fruitful nature of meetings between statesmen and parliamentarians of the two countries, exchanges of delegations between municipalities and city soviets, tourism and sports links. They have spoken with special warmth about the traditional mutual friendly sentiments and respect characteristic of relations between our nations. In this favourable atmosphere mutual understanding, goodneighbourliness and cooperation between the USSR and Greece are growing even stronger. This is also facilitated by the proximity and, often, identity of views held by two countries on many international problems, first of all their shared desire to foster and step up activities to put an end to the arms race, remove military danger, safeguard peace and enhance detente in Europe and in the whole world."

"To us," the PRAVDA correspondents were told by I. Pottakis, a deputy minister of Greece for the national economy who holds the rank of a minister, "the visit to Greece by the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov has special significance. This is the first visit of such a high level in the whole history of not only Soviet-Greek but even also of Russian-Greek relations. We see it as marking the beginning of a new stage in the development of links between our countries."

"Our economic policy with regard to the Soviet Union and the other CEMA member-countries, the Balkan states, I. Pottakis pointed out, "is a result of the multifaceted foreign policy proclaimed by the government rather than of time-serving considerations."

"We in the government," he said, "are seeking to make sure that our bilateral relations will be placed on a long-term footing and elevated to the highest possible level. We think highly of the successes scored by the Soviet Union and are convinced that we can draw considerable benefit as regards the economic development of our country from cooperation with it."

"The Soviet people," the correspondents write further, "sympathise with the struggle of the Greek period for establishing an atmosphere of friendship and goodneighbourliness in the Balkans, for turning the Mediterranean into a sea of a stable peace and cooperation."

Speaking about trade and economic relations between the USSR and Greece, the authors of the article note that their scope has long been steadily on the increase. In the past one year and a half since the advent to power in Greece by the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok), this process has been visibly accelerated.

The Soviet Union, the article says, supplies Greece with oil, oil products, machines, equipment, including heavy-duty power-generating sets for hydroelectirc and thermal power stations under construction with Soviet assistance, tractors, trucks, cars, chemicals, timber and lumber. In its turn, Greece supplies the USSR with citrus, tobacco, ferrous roled stock, bauxites, raisins, fruit juices, fabrics and knitwear. The overall trade turnover between the USSR and Greece has reached a total of more than 650 million roubles. That trade between the two countries more than doubled in the past three years has facilitated the solution of pressing economic problems facing Greece. In particular, brisker trade has helped to open more jobs, which is of great significance in the conditions of growing unemployment in that country.

If one is to speak about trends that are gaining strength in relations between Greece and the USSR, the correspondents write further, one should not limit oneself to dwelling on the trade and economic sphere alone. The interlacing of the two cultures and their mutual influence on each other, that has existed since olden times, has underlied the unabating interest of the Soviet and Greek peoples in eath other's cultural life. In recent years this interest has more and more frequently proved itself to be stronger than the spirit of mistrust and suspicion which is being fanned by the forces hostile to mutual understandings in a bid to hinder the development of cultural links.

The Greek-Soviet society, the authors point out, is playing a major role in strengthening friendly and goodneighbourly relations between the USSR and Greece.

The society's activities, its Vice-President E. Yannopulos told the correspondents, "have been meeting with a positive response not only from broad sections of the Greek public but also from government, political circles." "Along with our main task, that of facilitating stronger, manifold links between the two nations," he added, "we have been paying much attention also to questions of the struggle for peace."

"As a vice president of the Greek-Soviet society and a member of the government," E. Yannopulos emphasised, "I welcome wholeheartedly the visit of the head of the Soviet Government Nikolay Tikhonov."

PRAVDA 'SIGNED REJOINDER' ATTACKS UK'S PYM

LD211307 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 21 TASS -- PRAVDA carried today the following signed Rejoinder:

British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym appeared in the role of a defender of British sovereignty in a statement made one of these days and reported by a REUTERS correspondent. Of course, there is nothing reprehensible in this, for it is the duty of the nation's chief diplomat to take care of its security, independence and territorial integrity.

In this connection one might expect the foreign secretary to express concern over the dangerous consequences of the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries, Britain included. But the foreign secretary failed to rise above the foreign policy concepts of the conservative party leaders.

Trying to check the growth of anti-war sentiments in his country, Francis Pym said that unilateral nuclear disarmament, demanded by peace-minded people in Britain, would make Britain a "tempting" target for an aggressor (in the vocabulary of the Tory leaders such a statement meant "the threat of a Soviet invasion".

Of all people, Mr. Pym should know well the constructive Soviet proposals aimed at curbing the nuclear arms race and securing a strong peace for our continent. But instead of soberly analysing the situation the British foreign secretary again referred to the well-worn myth about a Soviet "military menace". Such dubious zeal would be more becoming to a NATO warrier dreaming of getting one more star for his shoulder straps than to the foreign minister of a big European state.

NORWAY ACTS AS 'SUPPORT' FOR U.S. STRATEGY

LD200014 Moscow TASS in English 2312 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 19 TASS -- The just-concluded official visit to the USA by Prime Minister Kare Willoch of Norway has shown that the conservative government of that country intends to continue to serve as one of the main supports in Washington's aggressive strategy in the European Continent.

The Norwegian prime minister met with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz, Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger as well as some other high-ranking officials of the administration and members of Congress. At the close of the talks Ronald Reagan stated that between the USA and Norway there exist close ties and community of interests.

As is known, the USA in its imperialist policy in the European Continent pays special attention to Norway which is situated in direct proximity to the borders of the USSR. Oslo plays an active role in the step-up of NATO's military preparations. As a high-ranking official of the U.S. Administration emphasised at a meeting with journalists, a duty assigned to Norway is to ensure the defense of the bloc's northern flank.

CHEYSSON'S OFFICIAL VISIT, TALKS CONTINUE

Cheysson Toast in Moscow

AB181340 Paris Diplomatic Information Service in French 1145 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Toast delivered by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson at a dinner given in his honor on 17 February in Moscow by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko]

[Text] Mr Minister, ladies and gentlemen: First of all, allow me to thank you for the words you have just spoken about the French president, Government and people. They have touched me very much. I rejoice over the opportunity given me by this visit to deepen my knowledge of your country's people and culture.

In your speech, Mr Minister, you remarked that for the Soviet Union no task is more important than the maintenance of peace. It constitutes a fundamental aspiration for us also. Our peoples have suffered too much from war and have undergone too tragic trials to forget this. We will also never forget our common struggle of which the exploits of the Normandy-Niemen fleet was a remarkable example. Yes, France desires peace. It is determined to help as much as possible to dissuade those who would like to think in terms of war.

France has now regained its strength and faith in the future. Many peoples look toward it with hope because it discusses every problem without any embarrassment, in all independence and with respect for certain great principles. It was with these particular responsibilities in mind that my government, with the impetus of the president of the republic, defined the main principles of our external action which I will now sum up in a few words: Independence, rejection of all interference, respect for the rights of man and peoples everywhere, and aid to development. My visit to Moscow naturally falls within this logic. It is on these bases that we wish to deepen our dialogue with you. This dialogue exists. It has never ceased since we have already met four times. It is necessary to make it more useful and constructive.

Peace depends on a balance of forces in Europe and the world and this balance must be effected at the lowest possible level. This is why the French Government supports the efforts being made in the Geneva negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union. A successful outcome to these negotiations would constitute an important step in the right direction; it would brush aside dangerous prospects and open remarkable new possibilities. France and all the French would greatly rejoice over this.

But it is impossible to accept that in doing this, the security of a country -- my country -- should be endangered or fall under the dependence of other countries even if these are allies. This is why, as the president of the French Republic said on 20 January, "the French nuclear force is and will remain independent." It cannot "be taken into account in the Geneva negotiations by two overarmed powers."

Does this mean that France would not be prepared under any circumstances to take part in an effort to limit nuclear arms? Quite the contrary. We hope for the reduction of the gigantic dimensions of the arsenals of the two overarmed powers and of their disproportion with regard to the arsenals of other countries. If this is done, there would be some sense in talking about all the nuclear forces in the world and we would support this with conviction.

In the meantime, let us endeavor to make concrete progress where it is within reach: I am referring to measures of confidence and to conventional disarmament in Europe. You will thus understand why we are so much attached to the rapid conclusion of the Madrid conference by the adoption of a clear and precise mandate which would enable the convening of the first phase of a conference on disarmament in Europe.

These days there is often the question of nonagression or of the nonemployment of force for the settlement of international differences. I am happy about this because these are essential principles which have already been accepted by all, particularly within the United Nations. It is good that their value should always be recalled and I thank those who are doing so. However, the validity of commitments already undertaken should not be diminished to avoid casting doubt on such declarations.

These principles should therefore be applied everywhere -- in Europe, Asia and elsewhere. Wherever they are violated, negotiations should be started as soon as possible to ensure a solution which would protect the legitimate interests and the security of all parties in the respect of the rights of the people concerned to independence and self-determination.

For example -- and our position is well known to you -- I am thinking about the situation in Afghanistan where a political settlement in conformity with law and reason would, I am convinced, very greatly affect the situation not only in the region but in the whole world.

Faithful to our traditions which go back in this connection to the French Revolution, the French Government and people attach great importance to freedom of speech and freedom of movement. These principles are auspiciously contained in the Helsinki Final Act. There is still much to be done with respect to their practical application. Progress in this field -- I am thinking in particular about the Madrid negotiations and more especially about the measures in favor of information and the conditions of service of journalists as well as trade union freedoms -- would have a great impact and beneficial influence on the climate of international relations. In this respect, how is it possible for one to hope that the aspirations of all peoples, and particularly the Polish people to whom France is attached in so many ways, will be given a freer and legitimate expression.

There are a number of conflicts and disputes in the world. They exist in the Third World where the need for development is considerable. We should discuss this together. In any case, it is our joint responsibility to prevent East-West tension from adding to regional conflicts thus making them even more insoluble. In fact, many of them stem from the current international economic and monetary crisis which affects us all but which hits harder the countries which are the least equipped to cope with it. In this context, development aid is vital to the maintenance of peace. The only remedy is the establishment of a new world economic order where the poor will not be doomed in advance. In this respect, the forthcoming UNCTAD meeting, which is to be held in Belgrade in June, will be an important date for North-South dialogue. France intends to devote considerable efforts to this long and exacting task. It wants to pursue an active cooperation and development policy in favor of the Third World and to reach, in 1988, the fixed target of 0.7 per cent of its GNP for public aid to development. It appeals to all industrialised countries, whatever their geographical position or economic system may be, to respect this target.

However, in a more general manner, I suggest that we also talk about the current economic crisis which affects all of us in our activities. It has not been studied sufficiently in the past. I propose that this subject should henceforth be dealt with in our exchange of views and our joint analyses.

I should like to place emphasis on French-Soviet bilateral cooperation. It is excellent in many areas and I am happy about this. In other areas, however, it can and should be improved for our mutual benefit. As far as we are concerned, we are determined to improve it -- and nothing and no one will prevent us from doing so wherever it does not affect security.

At the scientific and technical levels, we are already cooperating in many important areas of reserach. The proof is the 10-year scientific cooperation agreement which we have just had the honor and pleasure of signing for France. The French Government is happy about this.

The success of the France-Soviet space flight last year was an illustration of what we can do together and I feel that, in this field in particular, we will not stop there. We are grateful to you for this. The very recent visit to Paris by the chairman of the Committee for Science and Technology and the successful holding of the main committee meeting will give -- I am sure -- fresh impetus to this scientific cooperation.

In this cultural field, the ties between us can be even stronger as they are based on ancient traditions responding to the deep affinities between our two peoples. For we should never forget this -- history brought us together centuries ago. The outcome of this cooperation is already good and can become remarkable; we should look at the future with optimism. Our artistic exchanges have been characterized by outstanding events recently such as the Paris-Moscow and Moscow-Paris exhibitions and more recently the Messiaen Festival. It will be the responsibility of the joint commission which will be meeting soon in Paris to find areas for mutually enriching cooperation.

Nevertheless, many gaps remain to be filled, many areas need to be explored in order to widen mutual knowledge of our human and spiritual resources, for instance in the social sciences. But for our relations to be really fruitful, we must understand each other better. In this connection, I suggest that a French language year, similar to that organized last year for the Russian language should be organized in the Soviet Union. Such an action would help to establish understanding between our two peoples; it would be symbolic of our common determination.

Trade relations give us some satisfaction because they have tripled in 5 years and because there are increasing contacts between the two countries. But it also, and mainly, evokes reasons for concern and dissatisfaction. The Soviet Union sells twice as much to France as it buys from it. Our trade deficit was more than 5 billion francs in 1982, which represents 10 percent of our total deficit, whereas our trade with the USSR only represents 3 percent of our world trade.

France is confident in the future of economic relations with the Soviet Union. It demonstrated this last year by signing the agreement for the supply by the Soviet Union of eight billion cubic meters of gas a year for a period of 25 years. The two governments agreed to do everything possible to reestablish a balance in their exchanges by exploring new avenues, in particular in the food production and agroindustrial fields, as well as those of the intermediate products and capital goods. We expect our Soviet partners to make a similar effort to increase their imports from France, as we did some years ago, when the situation was in their favor. A redress has just begun. Let us hope that it will be continued and will be broadened in 1983.

France and the Soviet Union, Mr Minister, have known each other for a long time. They are both responsible powers. It is important that the dialogue between them be pursued and deepened. It is in this constructive spirit that I am paying this official visit to the Soviet Union. The principle of this visit was agreed upon during our meeting last September. The year 1982 enabled to achieve more or less significant results in the fields of science, culture and economy. We should continue in this direction.

It is therefore, with much pleasure that I will ask you, Mr Minister, ladies and gentlemen, to toast to the happy development of cooperation between our two countries, to your health and that of Mrs Gromyko and Mr Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU.

Cheysson Press Conference

LD181844 Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 18 TASS -- Our current visit to Moscow signifies the extension of French-Soviet dialogue and we express our satisfaction in this connection, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, paying an official visit to the Soviet Union, has said at a press conference in Moscow today. According to him, he discussed during his talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko questions of bilateral relations and exchanged opinions on international problems. These talks, Claude Cheysson said, are exceptionally rich from the point of view of their contents. Our analysis of many problems coincides to a large extent. However, there are differences, sometimes deep-going, on a number of problems.

Our current meeting, Claude Cheysson continued, is very promising from the point of view of the future. France and the Soviet Union will regularly exchange opinion at appropriate levels. We believe in the value of constructive dialogue and are resolved to carry it on, the French external relations minister stressed. There is a similar desire on the Soviet side.

Discussing Franco-Soviet economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation, Claude Cheysson voiced satisfaction with its good progress and stated: No one and nothing can hamper our contacts with the Soviet Union and other East European countries. No one else can decide for us these questions. Neither France nor the Soviet Union will allow anyone to impinge upon the development of our relations.

Answering the question about the French purchases of Soviet natural gas, Claude Cheysson said that those purchases transcended the bounds of a purely commercial deal. The contract for Soviet gas supplies for France is a factor making our relations richer. We, the French external relations minister said, completely trust the Soviet Union in the matter of these supplies.

Claude Cheysson further noted the coincidence of the positions of France and the Soviet Union as regards the urgency of the solution of the problems of the Middle East, in particular, the Israeli-Arab conflict and the hostilities between Iran and Iraq. The existing situation in the Middle East is very dramatic, he said. We cannot reconcile ourselves to this situation, even less so since there are signs of its continued deterioration. Having stressed the need to further the unity of action of Arab countries, the French foreign minister said: "The Arab world would only gain by speaking with one voice."

The minister for external relations of France stated that one of the causes of the present tension in Europe is a lack of trust. That is why, he said, we attach primary importance to the Helsinki agreements and to their implementation. We are glad that in Belgrade and now in Madrid signs of progress have been registered with respect to the further development of the Helsinki principles. Our position regarding attainment of agreement at the Madrid meeting coincides with the position of the Soviet Union.

We wish to see a situation, Claude Cheysson continued, in which no one dares to threaten mankind with war. In this respect, an important factor is a balance of nuclear forces at a minimum low level. It is necessary for the USA and the USSR to achieve success as soon as possible at the Geneva talks on strategic armaments. The French minister for external relations described as "excellent" the proposal of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov to reduce the existing arsenals of strategic weapons by about 25 percent.

Referring to the alignment of forces between the Warsaw Treaty member countries and those of NATO in Europe, the minister reiterated the known viewpoint of the French Government, according to which the nuclear arms of France are "independent" and are not part of the military system of the North Atlantic Pact.

He admitted, however, that the French missiles are trained not on France's allies at that bloc. Claude Cheysson did not give a direct answer to an Indian correspondent's question as to where those missiles are aimed. He expressed the hope that the Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear means will be crowned with success, for "their failure would lead to deployment in a number of West European countries of types of weapons which we do not wish". At the same time he alleged that the Soviet SS-20 missiles are an element upsetting the balance.

Claude Cheysson was asked about France's attitude to American intervention in El Salvador. We have already made known our point of view on this score in our joint statement with Mexico, he said. Solution to the problem of El Salvador should be worked out through political dialogue. All the parties should participate in a search for peace in that country.

Answering a question about the forthcoming trial of Klaus Barbie in France, the French external relations minister said that the secret services of not only the U.S. but also of other countries too were involved in harbouring that Nazi criminal. An investigation of the Barbie case is also important as a reminder of what that killer stood for. It should remind the peoples of the danger posed by racial discrimination, apartheid and totalitarianism, Claude Cheysson stressed.

Moscow Carries Press Conference

LD182353 Moscow in French to Europe 2030 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson, who is on an official visit to the USSR, today gave a press conference in the Soviet Foreign Ministry. He said:

[Being recording] Ladies and gentlemen. We are at the end of the first phase of this official visit to Moscow. The second phase will be marked by a meeting with the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on Monday morning.

As you know, this visit is the first one to take place at this political level in Moscow for very many months -- to be more precise, since the change of majority in France. Nevertheless, this visit marks the deepening of a dialogue which has never ceased. We are happy about this deepening, because we need -- in a period of economic crisis, of questioning on many problems in the world -- we need to jointly reflect with the USSR, [word indistinct] world responsibility. It is a political state of full independence, while we French also claim this same independence of thought, this same independence in drawing up our policy. And we also hope to have a voice that carries throughout the world.

The first words of comment about the visit will be words of appreciation. My Soviet host has honored France, through me, by giving a very remarkable form to our stay here. There are no attentions which were not granted to us. I express my gratitude. I also see the signs of Soviet intention to have constructive dialogue with France. (?I will use) the expression employed by Mr Gromyko to comment on our meetings.

[Word indistinct] these discussions have been accompanied by those little attentions which I have just recalled. Also they were remarkably thorough, [word indistinct] naturally. One could not suppose that the Soviet minister of foreign affairs, meeting the French minister of external relations, [words indistinct] but the thoroughness of our conversations made a big impression on me. There is no topic which we did not try to get to the bottom of, to examine the different aspects of the problems, not only the Soviet position and the French position, but also the position of other countries.

The reasons why difficulties exist, and even more importantly, the motives for our disagreements when there is disagreement. We have thus confirmed the fact that on many topics our analyses are, broadly speaking, common to us both. Identification of the facts of the situations in different parts of the world, [words indistinct] is nearly the same. On these matters, our conclusions are sometimes the same or very often they converge, starting from different positions. They do not diverge very much. But I am struck by the observation that it is possible to discuss everything, and we French wish to discuss everything with the USSR. [end recording]

Cheysson Reported 'Highly Satisfied'

LD181641 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 18 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program, presented by political observer Aleksandr Kaverznev]

[Text] A press conference given by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson ended in Moscow about 1 hour ago. He informed Soviet and foreign journalists that he is highly satisfied with his talks with Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko.

Both sides showed a desire to continue the constructive in-depth dialogue, traditional for French-Soviet relations. The French minister considers that the present talks in Moscow are notable for their rich content and their scrupulous analysis of key issues of bilateral relations and international problems. According to the minister their views of the existing situation coincide to a great extent.

Claude Cheysson told journalists that it is planned that he will meet with Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov on Monday.

'Very Serious' Atmosphere

NC181414 Paris AFP in English 1401 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, Feb 18 (AFP) French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson, on a two-day official visit here, said today that the Soviet Union's SS-20 missiles created an imbalance in Europe.

He argued the French nuclear force was independent and not comparable with arms being deployed by the superpowers in the European theatre. It could not be regarded as a justification for the presence of the SS-20's.

Mr Cheysson was holding his third and final round of talks with his Soviet opposite number Andrey Gromyko in what was described as a "very serious" atmosphere.

He said he hoped the Geneva negotiations on the reduction of medium-range missiles in Europe would succeed and iron out any imbalance.

The situation in Afghanistan and in Poland were also broached, as well as economic and cultural bilateral relations.

Mr Cheysson leaves tomorrow for Leningrad for a private visit. On Monday, he returns here to meet Party Leader Yuriy Andropov.

Contacts Should Be Continued

LD181536 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 18 TASS -- Talks were continued today between Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson.

The exchange of opinion was devoted mainly to the situation in Europe. Andrey Gromyko laid special emphasis on the problem of limiting nuclear weapons there as the decisive factor of ensuring European security under the present conditons and produced arguments in favour of the proposals made by the Soviet Union in this field. The implementation of these proposals could make it possible to resolve this problem fairly and without prejudice to anyone's security. At the same time it was stressed that the U.S. stand at the Geneva talks on the limitation of medium-range nuclear weapons is aimed not at achieving agreement with the Soviet Union but at deploying U.S. missiles in Western Europe, the inevitable consequence of this move being the enhancement of the arms race and of the risk of armed confrontation in Europe.

Andrey Gromyko and Claude Cheysson spoke in favour of the European process initiated in Helsinki and the extension of detente and cooperation in Europe. Both sides noted the importance which would be attached in this sense to the successful completion of the Madrid meeting, paving the way to a conference on confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe. It was agreed that the Soviet Union and France would contribute towards the adoption of a meaningful final document, including understanding on the convocation of such a conference.

The other international problems discussed included certain aspects of the situation in Southwest and Southeast Asia and in the Far East.

The ministers discussed questions related to the present-day condition and prospects of the development of bilateral Soviet-French relations, primarily in the political field, proceeding from the assumption that Soviet-French dialogue can play an ever-growing role in averting war, improving the international situation and building up an atmosphere of trust and security on the European Continent.

Satisfaction was expressed in general with the situation in the trade and economic field and with cooperation in implementing certain major projects. Cooperation is expanding between the Soviet Union and France in agricultural production. At the same time the Soviet side noted that the results of trade exchanges could have been more significant if France would have removed certain restrictions it applied.

The minister spoke favourable of the extent of cooperation in science, technology and culture.

Andrey Gromyko stressed that the Soviet Union would continue to do everything within its power in accordance with its basic course of promoting relations with countries having different social systems in order to extend cooperation with France. Given a reciprocal desire of the French side, progress can be ensured in relations between the Soviet Union and France in the interests of the peoples of both countries and the world at large.

The ministers voiced satisfaction with their exchange of opinions, which took place in a businesslike and propitious atmosphere, and both sides expressed the view that political contacts should be continued on a regular basis between the two countries.

'Fine Future' for Dialogue

LD191957 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Talks were held earlier in the week in Moscow between a Political Bureau member of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko; and the French minister of external affairs, Claude Cheysson, who is staying in the Soviet Union for an official visit. The two foreign ministers discussed Soviet-French relations as well as pressing international problems. More from our commentator, Leonid Krichevskiy, this is what he writes.

It happened before on many occasions when the Soviet Union and France showed to the world the good example of how relations should be dealt with by states with different social systems. Both countries launched the policy of relaxation of tensions; they worked hard to build the edifice of European security. At these talks in Moscow, a view was put forward that it is necessary to carry on the all-European process started in Helsinki to further reduce tension and promote cooperation in Europe. The two foreign ministers noted the great importance in this regard of successfully completing the Madrid meeting, which would pave the way for a conference on confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe.

Naturally, the two foreign ministers paid close attention to the problem of nuclear disarmament in Europe. The main thing is to block another wave of the arms race from engulfing Europe and the rest of the world, to prevent the mountains of stockpiled arms from getting even higher. In this respect, the year 1983 can become largely decisive. The course of international developments in Europe and the rest of the world will greatly depend on progress at the Soviet-American talks to limit nuclear armaments in Europe and on strategic armaments. The stake is so huge in this matter that all countries are affected. As for limiting nuclear armaments in Europe, the Soviet Union proposes an honest and simple agreement. It does not want to have in the zone of Europe a single missile or a single aircraft more than NATO has.

Speaking at a luncheon for the French Minister, Andrey Gromyko declared the following: We favor a balance at the lowest possible level but it should be a real balance, an equilibrium. Washington's so-called zero option is aimed against such a balance. Washington simply aims at having no agreement with the Soviet Union; instead, it aims at deploying American missiles in Western Europe -- that is, at upsetting the balance. There will be a balance later too, but at a higher level of armaments. Such a turn of matters won't strengthen either side.

At their talks in Moscow, the two foreign ministers also discussed the situation in the Middle East. The situation is explosive. Even those people who entertained some illusions about the policy of separate anti-Arab deals have seen for themselves what the policy of separate anti-Arab deals have seen for themselves what the policy has brought about. Before the eyes of the whole world, Israel and its American backers are tearing Lebanon apart. Washington recently announced a plan to set up a so-called central strategic command, which will affect a large area in Southwest Asia, Near and Middle East. The United States has actually usurped the right to carry out military interference in any country of the region -- and there are nearly 20 countries there. Actually, this a doctrine of international brigandage.

It was stressed at the talks that the Soviet Union strongly rejects any claims by the United States or any other country to dictate its order and its laws to other nations in order to interfere in their internal affairs.

The Soviet-French talks passed in a favorable atmosphere. They have shown that despite difference in social systems and divergences in positions on some international questions, the Soviet-French dialogue doubtlessly has a fine future.

Cheysson Remarks on Soviet TV

LD202219 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 20 TASS -- Within the framework of my talks in Moscow with USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, we pointed out the concurrence of our views on many problems. We were unanimous that it is necessary to multiply efforts aimed at strengthening peace and developing international cooperation, which contributes to progress of our two countries, Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, said in a Soviet television interview.

There are, of course, some divergences in our views. But there is at the same time an identity of views, the striving for peace, which should permanently bring us closer.

Our countries, which are proud of their history and culture, should cooperate, strive for a dialogue and reaching mutually acceptable agreements in all cases when it is necessary.

Visits Leningrad

LD192027 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Claude Cheysson, the French minister of external relations, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government, has left Moscow and arrived in Leningrad. The guest inspected and placed flowers on a monument at Victory Square that is dedicated to the heroic defenders of Leningrad.

Andropov Receives Cheysson

LD211122 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today received Claude Cheysson, the French external relations minister, who is in Moscow on an official visit.

Taking part in the visit was Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR foreign minister.

An exchange of views took place on bilateral Soviet-French relations and on a number of pressing international problems.

The conviction was expressed by both sides that good opportunities exist for the further development of fruitful mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and France in various fields.

During the discussion of international topics, emphasis was placed on the task of strengthening security and cooperation in Europe, including the Soviet Union's proposals for the reduction of medium-range nuclear armaments on the basis of parity. The importance of the further development of political contacts and of the dialogue between the USSR and France in the spirit of traditional good relations between the peoples of both countries was stressed.

Claude Cheysson passed on to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov a personal message from French President Mitterrand.

Taking part in the meeting were also: Alexandrov, assistant to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and Vorontsov, USSR ambassador to France for the Soviets -- Arnaud, French ambassador to the USSR; and Andreani, director of the Political Department of the French External Relations Ministry for the French.

AFP Reports Andropov Meeting

NC211404 Paris AFP in English 1356 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, Feb 21 (AFP) -- French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson ended an official visit to the Soviet Union today with an hour-and-a-half-long meeting with Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov.

The talks were the first Mr Andropov had granted a Western foreign minister since a series of meetings with visiting leaders on the occasion of funeral services for his predecessor Leonid Brezhnev in November.

Following today's talks, Mr Cheysson left for Brussels, where he was to inform a meeting of the European Economic Community's Council of Foreign Ministers later today of the results of his Soviet visit.

Mr Cheysson delivered a message to the Soviet leader from French President Francois Mitterrand, but its contents were not disclosed.

He made no statement after his meeting with Mr Andropov, but the Soviet News Agency TASS said the two paid "special attention" to the problem of reinforcing security and cooperation in Europe.

TASS also indicated that Mr Andropov had reiterated his proposal to reduce Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe "on the basis of parity," or to the combined level of French and British nuclear forces. The proposal, repeatedly rejected by France, had been turned down by Mr Cheysson in earlier talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko.

Today's meeting with Mr Andropov brought to 10 hours the time Mr Cheysson has spent conferring with Soviet officials since his arrival here last Wednesday.

He had earlier spent eight and a half hours split into three working sessions with Mr Gromyko, his Soviet counterpart.

TASS said today's talks stressed the "importance of developing political relations and pursuing the dialogue" between France and the Soviet Union.

In an earlier interview with Soviet television, which gave his visit extensive coverage, Mr Cheysson called for the development of Franco-Soviet economic cooperation and underscored the need to increased "efforts for peace."

Departs Moscow

LD211350 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 21 TASS -- French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson left Moscow today after completing an official visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport he was seen off by Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR foreign minister, and other officials.

CHEYSSON SAYS FRENCH-SOVIET DIALOGUE POSSIBLE

LD220312 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Dear listeners, the French minister of external relations, Mr Claude Cheysson today ended his official visit to the USSR. Here is a recording made at the press conference which Mr Cheysson held at the USSR Foreign Ministry, and that we have already reported on over past days.

Questioned about the significance and the prospects for bilateral relations between France and the USSR, the French foreign minister said, in part, the following:

[Begin Cheysson recording] The experience of the last 2 days shows that there can be a dialogue between the Soviet Union and France. We talked around a table for 8 and 1/2 hours. We are determined to continue this, and my Soviet colleague will not contradict me when he hears that I said that the Russians are also determined to continue.

There are bilateral matters, for example, improving our scientific, cultural and economic relations. In the scientific (?field) I will recall that we have already made very remarkable progress. Is there a better illustration than the invitation by the Soviet authorities to a French cosmonaut, Jean-Loup Chretien to take part in a space flight. There are many other fields of scientific cooperation, and you know that yesterday Mr Gromyko and I signed a 10-year agreement on scientific cooperation.

In the bilateral cultural field, our activities are numerous. Recently an exhibition called Moscow-Paris, which was parallel to the one which preceded it in Paris, gave information on life in Paris, culture, arts in our country to a very wide segment of the Soviet public. But there was a great deal of other activity [several words indistinct] in this field.

In the economic field we think we can do much better. It is first of all necessary, for it is never good for two countries who want to be equally independent that there should be an imbalance in trade. We are doing everything necessary to reestabish a balance. I note that for several months now, the Soviet authorities have made a substantial effort.

There is also political dialogue and, bearing in mind my present responsibility, I would say, above all, concerning the great problems of the world, we have shown that dialogue is possible. In certain fields we arrived at converging conclusions, in others at analyses which explained our differences, we are determined to continue this at all possible levels. We attach a very great importance to this dialogue. And I replaced the pronoun I by we because this is true for all French political forces. [end recording]

TASS DECRIES THATCHER REMARKS ON MISSILES

LD201310 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1148 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] London, 20 Feb (TASS) -- The overtly adventurist foreign policy course being pursued by the U.S. Administration is finding complete support with the British Conservative government. This has been reaffirmed quite clearly by the head of the present British Cabinet, M. Thatcher. In an interview for the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH newspaper published today, M. Thatcher, in the worst traditions of the "cold war" times, launched into a discourse on the "communist threat" and "Soviet expansionism." Her remarks in effect repeat a whole series of propositions contained in the notorous "program of democracy and public diplomacy" announced by Washington, according to which the U.S. administration intends to arrogate to itself the right to carry on massive interference in the internal affairs of other countries, primarily the developing ones, under the pretext of "defending democracy." Thereby the head of the Tory Cabinet has, in effect, supported this White House campaign although she did not refer to it openly or quote from it directly.

One of Britain's chief tasks, she declared, now is "to spread peace and democracy in the world on the basis of our principles and values." The prime minister of Britain intends to do this, according to her statements, first of all by strengthening the links between the United States and its allies in Western Europe and by building up their military might. Reaffirming the Conservative Cabinet's firm adherence to the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles in the country, the prime minister endeavored to "explain" the implementation of these dangerous plans by saying that the planned deployment of the U.S. nuclear missiles is not, supposedly, a "new military concept." However, the appearance of each new generation of weapons always, according to M. Thatcher, "gives rise to objections."

Here the head of the Conservative government preferred to pass over in silence the fact that in Britain the decision to deploy cruise missiles on British soil has not called for objections but a truly broad protest movement. According to the results of the public opinion polls conducted in the country, the majority of the British people categorically protest against having Great Britain turned into a launch pad for "winged death [krylataya smert]."

Further expounding her conception of "spreading freedom and democracy in the world on the basis of our principles and values," the Tory leader unambigously declared herself in favor of "drawing the Third World states" to the side of the West. "Our aim," M. Thatcher clearly indicated, "is to persuade the developing countries to adhere more closely to Western conceptions and not flirt with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries."

The methods and forms of such "persuasion," for which the British prime minister is arguing, are well-known. Support for the most reactionary regimes in the world and attempts to dictate terms to countries which have chosen their own noncapitalist path of development -- this is the course being followed by the Conservative government in the international arena. Suffice it to recall the bloody conflict unleashed by the Tories in the South Atlantic over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands, and the broad backing for the fascist dictatorship of Pinochet in Chile and the RSA racialists, who commit bloody reprisals against patriotic national-liberation movements.

U.S. REPORTEDLY INTERFERING IN FRG ELECTIONS

DW202043 Moscow in German to Germany 17 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Valentin Sakharov commentary: "The U.S. President Is Struggling for the Deployment of Missiles on the Rhine"]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the fact that Bundestag elections will be held in the FRG is also known to U.S. President Reagan, as he showed at his press conference Thursday night. In his statements on the forthcoming elections in the FRG Reagan stressed that he would consider a rejection by the FRG of the deployment of missiles to be a terrible setback, more concretely, if a new government in Bonn were not to give its approval to the planned deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles, U.S. President Reagan said, this would be a terrible setback for the cause of peace and disarmament.

This shows, first of all, that the present Kohl-Genscher government supports the planned deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in the Federal Republic and that the U.S. President prefers a government in Bonn which supports the planned deployment, this also becomes clear from what Reagan said in answer to a question of a West German correspondent. He said: Mr Vogel was here; he seemed to show he knows how important it is to pursue our plan on the deployment of these missiles -- don't forget, at your request. It is obvious, therefore, that President Reagan is determined to stand by the plan on the deployment of missiles in the Federal Republic also after the Bundestag elections and carry through the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles on the Rhine in the fall of this year.

In order to implement this intention the U.S. President intensely interferes in the election campaign and thus in the Federal Republics internal affairs. In doing that, Reagan uses a gross lie, claiming that if a new Bonn government does not agree to the deployment of the missiles, this will be a terrible setback for the cause of peace and disarmament.

This means that the U.S. President claims that the deployment of new U.S. missiles in the FRG does not mean stepping up armament, but disarmament.

However, every European capital or country is aware that the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in the Federal Republic means that entirely new medium-range missiles would be deployed on the Rhine to which there is no counterbalance in the East. Ergo, if the new U.S. missiles are deployed, the Soviet Union will be forced to counterbalance the new U.S. missiles by its new weapons. Therefore, the deployment of new U.S. missiles in the Federal Republic would not contribute toward disarmament but to a new round of the arms race. The arms race, a further accumulation of nuclear weapons in the FRG, however, would continue to undermine peace in Europe. This may be in Washington's interests, but certainly is not in the interests of the Federal Republic or of peace in Europe.

KOHL'S 'PROPAGANDA SHOW' IN WEST BERLIN SCORED

LD220619 Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] West Berlin Moscow February 21 TASS -- West Berlin's progressive public regards the propaganda show put up by the West German CDU party as a provocation against the policy of peace and detente. Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the CDU chairman, spoke at an "electoral meeting" here.

He re-iterated the threadbare lies about the "threat from the East", and about the "continuously growing Soviet military poetential" which allegedly requires urgent response steps. One such step, in his words, must be the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear-missile weapons in Europe. The chancellor stated again that his government fully supports the plans for the so-called "rearmament" and is prepared to make FRG territory available for deployment of "Pershing-2" and cruise missiles.

According to the newspaper WARHEIT, the West German chancellor, against the interests of genuine peace and security, "again demonstrated his desire to deploy new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in FRG territory at any price".

Besides, the newspaper says, "the holding of a CDU electoral meeting in West Berlin is a radical departure from the pivotal provision of the four-power agreement on West Berlin, which specifies that the city is not an integral part of the FRG and cannot be administered by it in the future."

The newspaper stresses that such actions, no matter what propaganda ploys are used to camouflage them, aim at drawing West Berlin into the NATO policy, which is totally at variance with the vital interests of its people.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON U.S. 6TH FLEET MANEUVERS

Al-Qadhdhafi Issues Warning

LD181718 Moscow TASS in English 1703 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Tripoli February 18 TASS -- The leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, speaking at the closing session of the General People's Congress, said that Libya will not permit anyone to invade the Gulf of Sidra which is Libyan territorial waters.

Referring to reports in Washington about the dispatch of the atomic aircraft carrier "Nimitz" and four aircraft equipped with the AWACS espionage system to areas directly adjoining the Libyan borders, M. al-Qadhdhafi said that Libya is capable of a resolute rebuff if the U.S. attempts to invade the gulf. According to the ABC television network, the decision to dispatch U.S. naval vessels and aircraft was approved by President Reagan himself.

The White House Deputy Press Secretary L. Speakes affirmed that the concentration of U.S. forces near the Libyan territory is due to military exercises, "similar to those previously held in the area". In actual fact, however, what is in question is a dangerous provocation and a sustained anti-Libyan campaign which has become a fixture of the U.S. foreign policy. One would be in order to recall that during the U.S. naval exercises in the Gulf of Sidra in August 1981 two Libyan aircraft were shot down.

In a bid to undermine Libya's economy Washington decided to recall from that country U.S. specialists working there in the field of oil production under previously concluded contracts.

The Pentagon's provocative militarist activity around Libya, this time too, is accompanied by crude assaults on the Libyan leadership and attempts to ascribe to it some "aggressive designs" without any foundation whatsoever.

Washington's anti-Libyan campaign fits in the framework of the general U.S. strategy in the Middle East. Through the use of military pressure, undisguised blackmail and diktat, the strategy aims at establishing undivided domination of U.S. imperialism in the region and undermining the national independence of the sovereign states in the region.

Al-Qadhdhafi Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

LD192131 Moscow TASS in English 1443 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Tripoli February 19 TASS -- U.S. AWACS planes have begun jamming Libyan civil telecommunications, according to the Libyan news agency JANA. The operation also involves ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

The leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has strongly condemned the manuevres of the U.S. aircraft-carrier "Nimitz" off Libyan shores as another dangerous provocation of the United States. In an interview with American television networks he accused Washington of pursuing a policy of aggression and international terrorism. America, he emphasised, had no right to interfere in Arab affairs which were the province of the Arabs themselves. He added that America must move out of the region as its actions were aggression and international terrorism.

The American military maneuvres around Libya in the past week, including the sending of the aircraft-carrier "Nimitz" to the Gulf of Sidra, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi pointed out further, represented a threat of war. It was the U.S. President that was responsible for that threat to the Libyan people. Libya was demanding an urgent meeting of the Security Council to blame Ronald Reagan.

The leader of the Libyan revolution categorically dismissed Washington's allegations about Libya's "aggressive aspirations" with regard to other countries. He declared that Libya had no intention of fighting wars with its neighbours. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi also refuted charges that Libya had something to do with the activities of the opposition in Sudan.

Libya did not bear responsibility for what was happening in Sudan, he emphasised pointing out that those developments were the internal affair of the Sudanese people.

According to reports by wire services, a high-ranking U.S. military delegation has arrived in Cairo. It includes, in particular, Francis West, assistant U.S. secretary of defense, and General Robert Kingston, commander of the so-called U.S. Central Command (Centcom) whose sphere of operations also embraces the Middle East.

Washington's aggressive designs against Libya indicate the direction in which the actions of the U.S. interventionist Central Command in the area of the Middle East will go.

Libya Denies Troop Buildup

LD190710 Moscow TASS in English 0605 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] New York February 19 TASS -- Libya's permanent U.N. Representative 'Ali at-Turayki described as sheer nonsense and pure speculation American officials' statements and Western press reports that Libya was allegedly concentrating troops on its borders with Egypt and Sudan, and posed a threat to them. As is known, the inventions have been used by the Reagan administration to justify provocative movements of the American fleet in the Mediterranean.

'Ali at-Turkayki told a press conference at the UN Headquarters that the Reagan government sought, through provocations, to divert world public attention away from the failure of its Middle East policy. He said Washington would like to increase tension in the region in order to justify escalation of U.S. military interference there.

The Libyan diplomat reminded the audience that both Egypt and Sudan had officially denied rumors that a dangerous situation had emerged on their borders with Libya. Both Cairo and Khartoum had declared there was no troops concentration on either side of the frontier. Both countries' representatives had also informed the UN secretary-general about it.

The Libyan representative said his government was aware of the CIA's stepped-up activity in Sudan in the past year. There was reliable information that in summer last year CIA Director William Casey had actively instigated Sudan to military intervention in Libya.

'Ali at-Turayki said that the United States' military actions posed a threat to the security of Libya and other countries of the region. He added he would inform the president of the UN Security Council of this threat and would ask for a council meeting if the military danger increased.

Libya Requests UN Review

LD212307 Moscow TASS in English 2229 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] New York February 22 TASS -- Libya has requested the U.N. Security Council to discuss the tense situation, which has been created in the region as a result of military threats and provocations against Libya by the United States.

A letter from Libya's permanent representative to the U.N. addressed to the president of the U.N. Security Council points out that the sending by the United States of aircraft equipped with AWACS systems to a country neighbouring on Libya and the dispatch of the aircraft carrier "Nimitz" and a number of warships to the area near Libya's coast is a provocation and a crude violation of the international principles of conduct and legal norms. The letter stresses that there is no justification for such a provocation, as Libya was not and is not going to interfere in the internal affairs of any state. It has a stake in preserving peace and security in the region.

Libyan Armed Forces Statement

LD200403 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Tripoli February 19 TASS -- The Libyan news agency JANA has transmitted a communique of the command of the Armed forces of the Libyan Jamahiriyah about provocative actions by warships and aircraft of the U.S. Sixth Fleet against Libya.

The communique points out that U.S. military aircraft on February 16 violated Libya's air space and approached the city of Benghazi to a distance of 80 kilometres. The Libyan Air Force intercepted the intruding planes and forced them to withdraw. It is also noted that ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, including the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Nimitz", on February 17 closely approached Libyan territorial waters. The Armed Forces of Libya, the communique says, will not allow anyone, including the United States which is at the head of international terrorism, to violate the air, sea and land borders of the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

JANA reports that mass demonstrations took place in a number of cities of the country in protest against "brazen American terrorist provocations" against Libya. The demonstrators carried placards expressing the Libyan people's determination to repulse the intrigues of U.S. imperialism.

Anti-U.S. Demonstrations

LD210638 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] Tripoli February 20 TASS -- Mass demonstrations of protest against U.S. provocative actions against Libya have been held in Tripoli, Benghazi, Sabha and other cities in the country. Demonstrators strongly denounced the concentration of warships and aircraft of the U.S. 6th Fleet close to the Libyan territorial waters.

Demonstrators unanimously adopted declarations stressing the determination of the Libyan people to repulse the aggressive machinations of American imperialism. Full responsibility for the heightening of tension around Libya and possible consequences, the declarations emphasize, rests with the White House administration.

Egyptian Denial of 'Nimitz' Request

PM211515 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Peresada's report under general heading "Near East: Whipping Up Tension"]

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb -- "Reliable information" has been released in the American press to the effect that Libya is allegedly concentrating troops on the border with Sudan. At the same time people across the ocean are trying to exacerbate Libya's relations with Egypt. Without citing any source, America's CBS television announced that the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Nimitz," which has arrived off the shores of Libya for maneuvers, was sent there at Cairo's request.

According to other reports from Washington, U.S.-Egyptian exercises were held the other day with the participation of four planes fitted with the AWACS reconnaissance system, which were sent to Egypt from the United States.

In a statement to AFP on the CBS assertions, a spokesman for the Egyptian president's office said that Cairo had nothing to do with the sending of the "Nimitz." And an Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman categorically denied reports on joint U.S.-Egyptian maneuvers.

The latest outburst of militarist hysteria over Libya was necessary exclusively to the United States, observers here note, stressing that complete calm persists on that country's borders with Sudan and Egypt.

PRAVDA on U.S. 'Provocations'

LD190920 Moscow TASS in English 0715 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 19 TASS -- Washington has embarked upon one more dangerous provocative action in the Middle East, writes in PRAVDA its New York correspondent Tomas Kolesnichenko.

He recalls that the nuclear aircraft-carrier "Nimitz" was urgently sent by the United States to Libya's shores, and American AWACS planes were sent to Egypt. The AWACS system is known to be intended to conduct reconnaissance and correct the course of military actions. As was noted by one of the commentators of the American television, Washington decided to deal a "pre-emptive strike" and to demonstrate once again its gendarme ambitions. This is actually an action to intimidate Arab states which display "cbstinacy" towards the American Middle East Policy", [quotation marks as received] the correspondent points out.

Libya, the author points out, has become target of American provocations more than once. "One should recall the rabid campaign, which was unleashed by the United States against the Libyan leadership, the actual rupture by Washington of American-Libyan diplomatic relations, direct attack by U.S. warplanes on Libyan planes in August 1981, etc. And now Libya has again found itself "a guilty" party: This time, you see, it 'threatens' the Sudan. [quotation marks as received]

But whom Washington thinks to mislead? All this fuss around Libya is too thin, the PRAVDA correspondent stresses. Its aim is to divert the attention of the world public from Washington's expansionist plans aimed at further destabilization of the Middle East situation and supporting the Israeli aggression, at broadening and building up the "American" presence in that part of the planet. "Such Washington's policy can only aggravate the Middle East crisis and might have dangerous consequences for the cause of peace", Tomas Kolesnichenko writes.

U.S. 'Saber-Rattling'

LD190037 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 18 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by A.Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] The United States has started on a new dangerous provocation against Libya. A short distance from the coasts of the Libyan Jamahiriyah the U.S. 6th Fleet's ships sail, including the nuclear aircraft carrier "Nimitz." In the sky appear U.S. AWACS flying radar aircraft, which are a means for the U.S. and Israeli aircraft to zero in on targets in Arab countries. Official Pentagon representatives make statements that are difficult to explain, except that they are a threat to the Libyan Jamahiriyah's independence. Washington started its hostile acts against this Arab country following the outbreak of the Libyan revolution in 1969, because the leadership of revolutionary Libya led the Libyan people on the path of internal transformation and of foiling imperialist conspiracies in foreign policy.

Washington is still following this hostile course against Libya. THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER said a short time ago that Al-Qadhdhafi is robbing Reagan's administration of sleep. This course has turned into a search for a way to liquidate the Libyan leader or at least to destabilize the progressive regime in Libya. Washington has actively worked to group blocs hostile to the revolution around Libya with the hope of liquidating the Libyan revolution's achievements through them. However, Libyan unity and the support of other countries and peoples for Libya's cause have thwarted the schemes of U.S. imperialism. Washington tried in the fall of 1981 to stir up a dispute at the Gulf of Sidra in order to exploit it for military action against Libya. U.S. fighters shot down over the Gulf two Libyan patrol aircraft while on an ordinary sorti U.S. media spread throughout the world rumors about unknown Libyans plotting to kill Reagan and his associates. However, this game failed.

Now here is Washington staging a new provocation. It is sab -rattling with arms along the Libyan borders once again. And once again from the banks of the U.S. Potomac River there are military calls for the destruction of the progressive regime in the Libyan Jamahiriyah and threats to punish whoever hinders the expansionist plan of U.S. imperialism. It is also recalled that Washington established the Central Command for such purposes.

Undoubtedly, the threats of the U.S. militarists and the hysterical barking of some U.S. papers frighten no one. However, the U.S. announcements of its intention to kindle a new armed conflict in the Middle East call for more vigilance and cohesion to respond to this provocation.

U.S. 'Blackmail,' 'Threats'

LD191748 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1045 GMT 19 Feb 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vladimir Gerasichev and (Sergey Fanton)]

[Text] The United States is continuing to pursue a policy of blackmail and threats against Libya. According to a UPI report, today the commander of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force arrived in Cairo. The day before, another high-ranking representative of the Pentagon also flew in. Despite the assertions of officials who are trying to present these visits simply as "consultations" between Egypt and the United States, the progressive public view them as a provocation.

After all, the U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Nimitz" as well as four aircraft equipped with the AWACS spy system have already been sent to the region directly adjacent to Libya's borders. According to an ABC report, the decision to send the aircraft carrier and the accompanying naval vessels and aircraft was approved by President Reagan personally. These actions were explained by the White House as being military exercises which, according to White House Press Secretary Speakes, have been held before in the region.

However, in actual fact, this is a dangerous provocation and the continuation of an anti-Libyan campaign which has been made into a constant element of U.S. foreign policy. Evidently, the job of directing this anti-Libyan spectacle has been given to the Pentagon representatives who have arrived in Egypt.

U.S. Proved To Be 'Liar'

LD212101 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 21 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" prepared by A. Timoshkin]

[Excerpt] Washington has once again been shown to the world as a liar. The Reagan administration has been compelled to admit that there neither is nor has been any massing of Libyan troops at the Egyptian and Sudanese borders.

Therefore, there is no justification at all for the provocative U.S. military activity against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. Despite this, the aircraft carrier "Nimitz" is still not far away from Libyan shores; U.S. aircraft are constantly approaching the Jamahiriyah's airspace -- so much so that they once chased a Libyan aircraft. Thus, there was an attempt to repeat the aggressive action which took place against the sovereign Libyan state in the summer of 1981. The recent attempt was also unjustified.

The Reagan administration's Middle East policy emerges quite clearly behind all of this as a blunt, aggressive policy. This policy is an inseparable part of the mad U.S. plans to dominate the world. The White House has confirmed this officially through its program of international democracy and diplomacy. To U.S. imperialism, democracy means having the right to declare vast areas of the world as areas of vital interest to the United States, which defends these areas of vital interest to the United States, which defends these areas through open diplomacy -- that is, open aggression on the sovereign Arab and non-Arab states that refuse to surrender their national interests in order to please Uncle Sam.

This is what the United States intends to do with regard to the Libyan Jamahiriyah, whose leadership is strugglingwith firmness and steadfastness to remove the aftermath of the Israeli aggression and to foil Washington's neocolonialist ambitions in the Arab world.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE ON IRANIAN TUDEH ARRESTS

LD182317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[Editorial Article: "Against Iran's National Interests"]

[Text] It has been reported from Tehran that a group of leaders of the People's Party of Iran (Tudeh), including Comrade N. Kianuri first secretary of that party's Central Committee, have been arrested.

Speaking on radio and television, Musavi-Tabrizi, the country's general public prosecutor, stated that "the arrest of the persons mentioned is connected with their espionage activities on behalf of Eastern states." And although he did not specify which states he had in mind the anti-Soviet campaign which was developed recently in some press organs leaves no doubt on this score: Reactionary conservative circles have become active in Iran; they are seeking to inflict a blow simultaneously against progressive patriotic forces and against relations between Iran and the Soviet Union.

The groundless and slanderous nature of the accusations made against the Tudeh leaders and also of the attacks on Soviet policy is so obvious that they need not be refuted at all. One thing is surprising, however: All this is taking place at one of the most crucial moments in the history of Iran, that is, at a time when the country's economic situation is grave, when the counterrevolutionary forces are not ceasing their attacks, when there is a threat of military invasion by the United States, which maintains a strong naval force of several tens of vessels near the Persian Gulf, and when the Iran-Iraq war is going on.

Nevertheless, it is at this moment that repressions are unleashed against the Tudeh leaders, a party which in the 41 years of its existence has written quite a few bright pages in the chronicles of the people's struggle against the shah's despotic regime, against foreign domination in the country before the 1979 revolution and against reaction of every sort.

As regards Comrade Kianuri and his companions, many of them spent time in prison in the shah's reign, serving prolonged terms of punishment. It was only the revolution that freed them from the dungeons.

In all the years that have since passed, despite the complexity and contradictory nature of the political struggle which developed in the country, the Tudeh Party invariably supported the democratic and anti-imperialist principles of the Iranian revolution, considering that they constitute the basis of the course adopted by Imam Khomeyni. The facts show that that course united the working people of town and village, the deprived sections of the population. Of course, the party was with them.

It is no secret, however, that there are various groupings active in Iran, including some that adhere to strictly conservative, extreme right wing views. These groupings appear to be gaining strength. One fact that indicates this is that the social reforms in the interests of the working-class sections of the population have come to a standstill, while the pro-Western bourgeoisie is feeling increasingly confident. Now, a blow is being struck at Tudeh, which is part of the progressive forces of Iranian society.

The reactionary circles are undermining Soviet-Iranian relations, although those relations are undoubtedly in accord with Iran's national interest and help the country to withstand imperialist pressure.

Let us recall just a few facts. In the fall of 1978, when the shah's throne in Iran began to totter, a report appeared in the Western press of a possible U.S. invasion of the country. At precisely that time the Soviet Union issued a declaration that interference in Iranian affairs was impermissible. Right after the Iranian revolution the U.S. Government imposed an embargo on trade with Iran. The U.S. Navy was waging a blockade of Iran's ports, thereby inflicting serious damage on the Iranian economy and hindering the supply of food and other goods to the populace. The Soviet Union not only denounced these actions of imperialism, but also allowed Iran to transport goods through Soviet territory by land and water. In 1979 1.3 million tons of goods were transported via the Soviet Union; in 1981 this figure had increased 2.5 times. Thus the damage done by the U.S. blockade was considerably reduced. And Iran now has many successfully functioning enterprises that have been built with Soviet help, while construction of a number of installations on which Soviet Experts are working continues.

Those are the facts. They show that the Soviet Union does not seek any special rights or advantages for itself in Iran, has no territorial claims on Iran, is not interfering in its internal affairs, but desires only that our peoples may live in peace, friendship and cooperation.

As was noted at the 26th CPSU Congress, "the Iranian people are seeking their own path to freedom and prosperity. We sincerely wish them success in this and are willing to develop with Iran good relations on principles of equality and, of course, reciprocity."

As for the anti-Soviet campaign that has been launched in Tehran, it only darkens relations between our countries and peoples, harming, above all, the interests of Iran itself.

GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL MEETING NOTED

LD210730 Moscow TASS in English 0626 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Kuwait February 21 TASS -- A meeting of foreign ministers of the Arab states, members of the Persian Gulf Council of Cooperation, has ended in Riyadh. It was attended by Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

The ministers discussed the Middle East situation as a whole and specifically in the Persian Gulf Area, and also questions of expansion of cooperation between the countries of the region.

Iranian-Iraqi armed conflict held a special place on the agenda.

KISELEV SPEECH ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

WA221340 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 17 Dec 82 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report on report delivered by CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee T.Ya. Kiselev, at 16 December 1982 Minsk ceremonial meeting to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the USSR: "In the Fraternal Union of the Soviet Peoples Toward the Great Goal"]

[Text] Dear Comrades. At this time celebrations devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR are taking place throughout our country. It is a great and joyous holiday for all the peoples of the USSR, a holiday close to the heart of each Soviet person.

Permit me on behalf of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau, Supreme Soviet Presidium and BSSR Council of Ministers to warmly congratulate you, the participants of this ceremonial meeting, and through you all the workers in the republic, on the occasion of this glorious jubilee.

The formation of the USSR was the result of the victory in and a continuation of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which turned the entire course of world history in the direction of socialism. Establishment of the power of the working class and public ownership of the means of production laid a firm foundation for the free development of all nations and nationalities and their close unity and friendship.

The genial architect of the world's first multinational state uniting workers and peasants in a common alliance was Vladimir Ilich Lenin. In the historically new conditions he creatively developed and comprehensively enriched the teaching of K. Marx and F. Engels and united into a single whole the strength of the combat organization of communists, the revolutionary energy of the proletariat, and the unquenchable desire of the peoples for national equality and freedom. V.I. Lenin recognized profoundly the need for the closest union between the Soviet republics in order to solve the tasks of the building of communism and defending the motherland against the encroachments of imperialism. The creation of the USSR was living embodiment of Leninist ideals and Leninist principles of national policy.

No system of international relations more perfect than that of the socialist community of Soviet peoples, born of the Great October, exists anywhere on earth.

As they celebrate this remarkable anniversary, our people express the most profound gratitude to their own communist party. Vanguard of the working class and the mind, honor and conscience of our age, the party of Lenin has led the workers of the country through the storm of three revolutions and insured the victory of the socialist social and state order. It has consolidated the gains of the October by creating the voluntary, indestructible union of the fraternal republics. "In the matter of social and national liberation for the peoples of the country, and in the upsurge in their economies and cultures," it states in the CPSU Central Committee decree "On the 60th Anniversary of the USSR," "the party has applied the tireless labor, talent, and spiritual fire of the communists, and the knowledge and organizational skill of the cadres." It has won the highly esteemed right to be the leader of the workers of all the nations and nationalities of our motherland.

And if, no matter in what form it may have been raised for us in the past, the national question has now been resolved, finally and irrevocably, and the friendship of the peoples and the principles of international brotherhood have become profound convictions and the norm in the daily behavior of millions of Soviet people, it is thanks first and foremost to the very great historical services of the CPSU.

The unshakable resolve of the party and Soviet people firmly and steadfastly to advance along the Leninist road was convincingly demonstrated in the CPSU Central Committee

plenums that took place in November this year. They confirmed the deep continuity and consistency in the party's general line in both domestic and foreign affairs. CPSU Central Committee general secretary, comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov emphasized that "the Soviet people have boundless trust in their communist party. They trust it because for it there never have been nor are there now any interests other than the vital interests of Soviet people. To justify this trust means to advance along the road of the building of communism and strive to achieve the further bourgeoning of our socialist motherland."

Communists and all workers of Belorussia unanimously approve and wholeheartedly support the line of the Leninist Central Committee in implementing the course set by the 26th CPSU Congress.

Soviet people of all nations and nationalities have made their contribution to the historic cause of strengthening the USSR.

The working class of Russia has acted as the leading force in the international cohesion of the Soviet peoples. Through their self-sacrificing heroism in the revolutionary struggle against the landowners and capitalists, their courage and steadfastness on the fronts of the civil war, and through their selfless labor for the common good and consistent internationalism they have earned the recognition and trust of workers of all nationalities.

The RSFSR played a decisive role in the formation of a united, union state. V.I. Lenin's foresight has come about: "various isolated federations of free nations will increasingly group themselves around revolutionary Russia. This federation will grow quite voluntarily, without lies or force, and it is indestructible. And the best guarantee of this indestructibility is provided by those laws and that state order that we ourselves shall create."

Heedless of the difficulties and deprivations, the great Russian people provided for all the republics, including Soviet Belorussia, invaluable fraternal help in defending revolutionary gains and they carried out gigantic work to overcome the backwardness of the former national districts and salvage their economies, insuring on this basis a general movement forward.

As we survey the road traversed over six decades, the workers of the republic take pride in their participation in the worldwide-historic accomplishments and gains of socialism.

The formation of a united, union state met the real interests of the Belorussian people. Expressing their aspirations, the republic delegation to the 10th All-Russian Congress of Soviets stated that the workers and peasants of Belorussia would be proud of the fact that "they are becoming one of the first detachments of workers to join the newly created Union of Socialist Republics."

This union was tempered and strengthened in the crucible of revolutionary struggle against counterrevolution and the forces of international reaction. And it showed to the whole world its indestructibility and very great viability.

Within the united family of fraternal peoples the masses of Belorussia joined with great enthusiasm in the implementation of Lenin's plan for the socialist transformation of the country. At that time the communists of Minsk wrote to V.I. Lenin: "The party conference promises you, our revolutionary guide and leader, that it will, with a recognition of its responsibility to the proletariat, consistently follow the line of the building of communism." Imbued with revolutionary optimism, on the day that the city power station was opened the worker-deputies of Gomel assured Vladimir Ilich that "the first electric power station to be constructed is only one link in a chain of electric power stations that we shall create both in the city and the countryside." And the will of the people was embodied in deeds.

A key task in the building of the new society was accomplished in a short period historically: socialist industrialization was completed.

The collectivization of agriculture led our countryside from darkness into the light, from poverty to sufficiency, from patriarchal seclusion to the collective forms of labor. The peasantry set forth firmly along the socialist road.

We justifiably link the most profound transformations in the life of the people to the cultural revolution. In the difficult conditions of acute shortages of even the essentials, the Soviet authorities and the Communist Party created a fundamentally new system of popular education that insured universal literacy, a rapid upsurge of science and culture and the education of the rising generation in the spirit of socialism.

Party veterans and those who participated in the Great October Socialist Revolution and the civil war, and the trailblazers of the building of socialism are present here in this hall. They represent the generation of revolutionaries that affirmed our soviet power and the union and brotherhood of the peoples, labored selflessly and carried on their shoulders unheard-of burdens -- and won through.

From the bottom of our hearts we say to them: we are grateful to you, dear comrades, for your great achievement in life. Please accept our wishes for good health and prosperity!

During the process of the building of socialism the socialist brotherhood of all the peoples of our country has been affirmed with increasing force. The ideals of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, which have become as of the flesh and blood of Soviet people, helped us to stand firm and gain victory in the mortal encounter with the most aggressive forces of world imperialism. The Great Patriotic War graphically demonstrated that no force exists that could shake or destroy "the united, powerful Soviet Union, created by the will of the people."

From generation to generation the Belorussian people will pass on as a sacred thing the feeling of boundless gratitude to their liberators -- the soldiers, officers and generals of the valiant Armed Forces of the USSR who in the battles on Belorussian land augmented the glory of Soviet arms and showed themselves to be models of valor and courage, steadfastness and bravery.

The sons and daughters of all the fraternal republics, representatives of more than 70 of the nationalities of our motherland, fought in a united combat formation with the defenders of the homeland in the party detachments and brigades and in the underground organizations during the temporary occupation of Belorussia.

We bow low and offer our best wishes to the veterans of the Great Patriotic War -- the former frontline fighters, partisans and underground fighters, to all who in battle and in labor brought about the righteous cause of victory!

The feats of the postwar rebirth accomplished by the party and people stand on a par with the feat of arms. Like other regions of the country our republic was invaded by the enemy and in essence we had to start over again from nothing. Alone we would never again have stood on our own feet. But already by 1950 the prewar level of industrial output had been surpassed, and now our industry produces 32 times more output than during the last year before the war.

The reserves and potential of socialist agriculture have grown immeasurably. In our republic, for example, since the CPSU Central Committee March (1965) Plenum, the power-to-worker ratio in agriculture has increased by a factor of almost five. The productiveness of the fields has been grown and the volumes of arable and livestock farming output have been expanded.

The well-being and culture of the people have been raised on the basis of the increase in social production. During the postwar years, within the republic 3.4 million young

men and women have received a secondary education (general or specialized). And we now have six times as many specialists with diplomas as there were in the whole of prerevolutionary Russia.

All this is a convincing confirmation of the inexhaustible creative force of socialism and the mutual help and friendship of the peoples of the USSR. In struggle and in labor, in the hour of terrible trials and in joyous victories, they are always together; they make up a single family. Pimen Panchenko, a people's poet of Belorussia, has put it very well:

I cannot imagine life without the Russians,
Or if the order of things were different.
The world would seem too narrow to me
Without the Ukrainians and Latvians,
Without the Black Sea, without the Volga,
Without the Yenisey and the taiga....

The developed socialist society established in our country is the crowning achievement of the gigantic revolutionary-transforming activity of the party and Soviet people. The life-giving forms of cooperation and mutual aid among all nations and nationalities in the country have been confirmed and enriched in this, and their unbreakable friendship and cohesion around the party of Lenin and its central committee reinforced. Mature socialist social relations have been consolidated and perfected. The indestructible alliance of the working class, kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia has been even further strengthened. An historically new international community of people -- the Soviet people -- has been formed.

At the present stage the main trend in national relations is the further comprehensive rapprochement of the Soviet nations. This is a most important condition for and guarantee of their steady progress and the increasing consolidation of the USSR.

A unified national economic complex -- the material basis of the fraternal friendship of the peoples of the USSR -- has been established and successfully developed.

As the 26th CPSU Congress noted, the party course envisages the buildup of the material and spiritual potential in each republic and at the same time its maximum utilization for the balanced development of the country as a whole. Like workers throughout the Soviet motherland, the workers of Belorussia are vitally interested in strengthening our multinational state and its economic and defensive might.

In accordance with the all-union division of labor, Belorussia occupies an important place in the production of machine-tool, electronic and instrument-building equipment and chemical and petrochemical output, along with flax, potatoes, meat, milk and other agricultural produce.

The workers of Belorussia consider it their patriotic duty to make more efficient use of the republic's economic and scientific-technical potential in the interests of the entire country, and to participate actively in implementing the statewide national economic tasks on which the further upsurge in the economy and the well-being of all Soviet people and each member of our population depend.

The heroic working class of the land of the soviets marches at the head of the campaign to intensify the economy. Thanks to the concern of the party, the ideological maturity, social activity and general cultural and professional skill of the workers and their role in solving the key problems of today's policy are being constantly enhanced. Today, almost three-fourths of workers in the republic have higher or secondary (complete and incomplete) education. Along with the scientists and engineering-technical workers they are functioning as active champions of scientific and technical progress.

In terms of its economic position and its ideology, psychology and morals, the working class has been and remains a leading force in our society and the most consistent spokesman for the international solidarity and brotherhood of the workers.

The most profound changes have occurred in the social makeup and culture and the living conditions of our peasantry with the implementation of Leninist national policy and the affirmation of large-scale collective farming. It is not only that the socialist order has plowed under the boundaries of the tracts held by the landowners. Centuries of the traditions and customs of the landowners have been replaced with socialist ideology and the morals of the collective peasant, who holds the interests of society paramount.

A deep understanding of their duty, their responsibility for augmenting the country's production resources, and an honest, creative attitude toward the business -- this is what today typifies the vital position of the rural workers. In terms of the technical equipment and intellectual facilities available to them, their labor is increasingly approximating that of the present-day industrial worker.

We have established a large detachment of talented organizers for agricultural production, and their experience is a wonderful example of skilled land management and the successful resolution of production, social and educational tasks.

The Belorussian countryside is being renewed, brought into good order, and improved. Over the last 15 years alone one-third of rural dwellers have moved into new homes. The network of cultural, public health, trade and everyday services establishments is being expanded. In a word, the rebuilding of the countryside is a process of enormous importance that is being developed in width and in depth. And it requires our increasing attention.

The further development of agricultural production and improvements in its efficiency are connected with the Food Program that now occupies a central place in party plans and concerns. The party is focusing on making the enormous possibilities of the agrarian-industrial complex and the means for controlling its development provide a return even today, and even more tomorrow. In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee instructions, here in the republic specific measures have been drawn up to improve all our work connected with increasing the production and purchase of agricultural produce, and these measures are being implemented.

Let us state frankly that not all of us have yet done what is required and wished of us. And it would be incorrect to explain all difficulties and problems merely by objective factors. Where work quality and labor discipline are higher, results are better.

The socialist order has succeeded in solving a problem of truly historic significance, namely, arming the multimillion-strong masses with the achievements of culture and making available to each person, regardless of his social status or nationality, all the sources of knowledge. Within the republic, as throughout the country, the transition to compulsory universal secondary education has been completed, and broad facilities have been created for people to show their talents and gifts, for the burgeoning of culture, and for the creative activity of the masses in the fields of science and art.

Soviet Belorussian literature and art make up an inherent, integral part of the country's spiritual wealth.

At the same time the achievements of the great Russian culture and the cultures of the other fraternal republics have become part of the spiritual life of the Belorussian people.

In all this the Russian language fulfills a truly noble mission. Voluntarily, adopted by the Soviet peoples as the language of inter-nation [mezhnatsional'nyy] dealings, it

is an important factor in the strengthening of the sociopolitical and ideological unity of the Soviet people and the development and mutual enrichment of the national cultures.

Much research conducted by Belorussian scientists has taken a deserved place among the outstanding achievements of Soviet science. The republic's scientific collectives are working along virtually all the most important avenues of modern science and technology.

Within the republic a detachment of more than one million engineering-technical workers, intelligentsia, teachers, physicians and other specialists has grown up and is working fruitfully, augmenting its contribution to the general treasure house of material and spiritual riches and the education of Soviet people.

At the present stage the statewide nature of CPSU and Soviet government social policy is being revealed increasingly fully. The party sees the loftiest meaning of its activity in enhancing the well-being of Soviet people and creating conditions for the harmonious development of the individual.

Each Soviet family, each Soviet person feels the fruits of the party's social policy. In Belorussia real per capita income has increased by a factor of 2.7 over the past two decades. The size of public consumption sums has more than quintupled. Each day an average of more than 1,000 people improve their living conditions. The levels of public health and social insurance facilities for the population have been raised.

Developed socialism graphically demonstrates the indissoluble link between the burgeoning and rapprochement of all the nations and nationalities in the country and the deepening of socialist democracy. The adoption of the new Constitution of the USSR was an historic Rubicon in the development of Soviet society. It embodied the profound democratism and humanitarianism of the socialist order. The nationwide discussion and unanimous approval of the Constitution showed once again the desire of the peoples of the USSR to cherish and strengthen their state union.

The atmosphere of collectivism and comradeship, the moral salubrity of the society and its social optimism which have been affirmed in our multinational motherland are manifestly revealing the indisputable advantages of Soviet life, of socialist life.

The democraticsm of our society is seen most fully in the activities of the soviets of working people's deputies -- the sovereign, state organs that are multinational in makeup, international in essence, and elected by the people and expressing the will of the people.

The trade unions, the Leninist Komsomol and the other mass organizations of the workers are an inherent, integral wing of our society's political system.

All the social strata and groups of our people and individuals of the different generations participate actively in the building of the new society. Utterly devoted to the ideals of communism and the great Leninist party, they offer for the common good their knowledge, love of labor and skills, and they do everything in order to make our motherland even more rich, more beautiful, more strong.

It is with a special warmth that we today address the women workers and the mothers. They are active builders of the new society. They stand at the sources of the formation of the best qualities of the individual and they play an important role in educating a worthy, reliable new generation. And from the bottom of our hearts we wish our glorious women good health, prosperity, and new successes in labor and study!

With each passing year the labor enthusiasm and energy of our youth are augmented. In their common labor with the workers and peasants, young men and women acquire and develop the high qualities of people who are politically active, love labor, are able to work and study, and are always ready to defend the motherland.

Our people look with confidence to the morrow. The main thing today in the lives of the urban and rural workers in Belorussia is the aspiration to meet in a worthy manner the anniversary of the formation of the USSR. In a worthy manner means to fulfill better the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and to bring joy to the motherland with new labor accomplishments.

Now, when 2 years of the 11th Five-Year Plan stand behind us, we can with full justification say that, along with the rest of the country, the republic has moved ahead on all salients of socioeconomic development. In terms of growth rates for industrial production the plan for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan were completed ahead of schedule by 1 December 1982. Output growth has increased 9.4 percent, which is higher than the target set for the 2 years. Overfulfillment of the plan is expected for labor productivity growth. The production of goods of the highest category of quality makes up 44 percent of all certified output.

The first steps have been taken to implement the Food Program. The republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have fulfilled the plan for the sale of grain to the state. Livestock farming output has increased. This made it possible during the period January through November this year to increase the purchases of cattle and poultry 6 percent, of milk 9 percent, and of eggs 3 percent.

The shock jubilee watch has culminated in an event that brings joy to all of us, to each worker in the republic. For its successes achieved in economic and cultural building and its great contribution to the development of the country's unified national economic complex, and to mark the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, the Belorussian SSR has been awarded a Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee; which we have just received.

A high award of the motherland -- Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee -- has been awarded to Brest and Grodno Oblasts, the cities of Vitebsk, Gomel and Minsk, Pervomayskiy Rayon in Bobruysk City, and Baranovichskiy, Lyakhovichskiy, Gomel'skiy, Korelichskiy, Ostrovetskiy, Kletskiy, Molodechnenskiy, Nesvizhskiy, Stolbtsovskiy and Kirovskiy Rayons. Banners have also been awarded to 84 collectives at associations, enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and scientific research and other organizations and establishments in the republic.

Glory to the victors in prejubilee competition, marching in the vanguard of the struggle to fulfill the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan!

Soviet people link all their successes in the building of communism with the many-sided and fruitful activity of the Leninist party. Under the conditions of mature socialism its leading, organizing and guiding role is growing constantly in the development of the nations and nationalities of the USSR and in strengthening their fraternal union. The CPSU is striving to achieve a situation in which the new processes and problems in the sphere of national relations receive timely and full expression in the work of party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations and economic organs.

The party attaches great significance to the education of the entire population in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, in a spirit of a sense of pride in belonging to the unified, great Soviet motherland. While insuring respect for national feelings and the national dignity of each individual, we are at the same time called upon to act decisively against any manifestations of nationalism. The party teaches us persistently to form in workers the ability to approach all social problems, including national problems, from class positions.

Creatively enriching the experience gained in ideological-political education, the party, trade union and Komsomol organizations must henceforth also form in the workers

a boundless loyalty to the ideals of communism, high vigilance, and personal responsibility for the fate of our socialist motherland and a readiness to defend the great gains of socialism.

In the future it will also be necessary to instill in each of our people the clear understanding that discharging his patriotic and international duty means first and foremost honest, initiative-filled labor for the common good and active participation in solving statewide tasks and strengthening the might of the USSR.

Comrades, today the building of communism is being accomplished in an exacerbated international situation. The ruling circiles of the imperialist powers, primarily the United States, trying to extricate themselves from the profound crisis in which the capitalist system finds itself, are whipping up the arms race, supercharging international tension, and through their adventurist policy pushing the world to the brink of nuclear catastrophe.

Under these conditions, active implementation of the Leninist peace strategy worked out by the party acquires paramount significance for fate of mankind. It rests on the growing economic might of our country. The Peace Program for the eighties put forward by the 26th CPSU Congress is a real counterweight to the attempts of imperialism to unleash a new round of the arms race, constantly heat up the international situation and undermine the bases of mutually advantageous international ties. Our foreign policy is one of rebuffing the aggressive aspirations of imperialism and any encroachments on the security of the USSR and its allies.

While fighting for disarmament, the Soviet Union together with the states of the socialist community is doing everything necessary to maintain defense capabilities at the necessary level. Like all Soviet people, the workers of Belorussia unanimously approve the constant concern of the party and government to maintain our army and navy in a state of high combat readiness. The valiant Armed Forces of the USSR form a reliable guard for the great gains of socialism, a guarantee for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

At the same time the Soviet Union rejects the viewpoint of those who are trying to, as it were, introduce the idea that force and arms solve and will always solve all problems. Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov has noted that "now the peoples are moving into the stage center of history in a way never before seen. They are capable of active and purposeful action to remove the threat of nuclear war and save the world, and, this means, life on our planet."

The banner of Lenin, the banner of October, beneath which our country's worldwide-historic victories have been won, is in firm, reliable hands -- it is in the hands of the CPSU. And this imparts to us all a strength of spirit and enormous creative energy and it reinforces our faith in the triumph of Lenin's immortal cause.

What has been achieved by Belorussia within the mighty union of fraternal Soviet republics under the leadership of the CPSU forms a solid foundation for new accomplishments. And it is our duty to manage in the best way the republic's growing potentials in the interests of augmenting its contribution to the country's treasure house of material and spiritual wealth.

Our main efforts should henceforth be focused on the intensification of production and its greater efficiency, as was required of us by the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum. We are obligated to make maximum use of available reserves and potentials to improve economic activity, accelerate scientific and technical progress, improve labor productivity and increase output and enhance its quality. It is necessary to display constant concern for the more rational utilization of electric power, fuel, raw materials and other materials, and labor and financial resources. The question of questions for us is implementation of the Food Program.

All this requires from our cadres and from all workers a greater businesslike approach, a sense of organization and discipline, and enhanced personal responsibility for our individual assignments.

The preparations for the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR have enriched the content and form of our party, soviet and economic work. Using all that is best, it is essential in the future also to develop in every possible way the initiative and persistence of the production collectives and all urban and rural workers in implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the tasks of the five-year plan.

Dear Comrades. Permit me on your behalf, and on behalf of the communists, workers, kolkhoz farmers and intelligentsia of the republic to assure the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo that for the Belorussian people, rallied closely about the communist party, in the future also the highest meaning of life and labor will remain the concern for the comprehensive burgeoning of our multinational socialist motherland. They will cherish as the apple of their eye the Leninist friendship and brotherhood of the peoples of their great Soviet motherland -- the inexhaustible source of our strength, the guarantee of our future victories. Belorussia will devote all its energy, knowledge and experience to the sacred cause of the building of communism.

Long live our mighty motherland -- the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

May the friendship and brotherhood of the Soviet peoples grow ever stronger!

Glory to the CPSU as it leads us confidently to the victory of communism!

(The report was listened to with great attention and repeatedly interrupted by prolonged applause).

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS IDENTIFIES SHORTCOMINGS

LD181350 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 17 Feb 83

[Text] The subject of today's joint meeting of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Railways and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Railway Transport and Transport Construction Workers Trade Union was intensification of discipline on the country's railroads. In an analysis of this industry's performance for January and the first half of February of this year, Comrade Konarev, the minister of railways, noted that the collectives of many railways and their branches have overfulfilled the plans assigned to them for the transportation of freight for the national economy. There was a significant improvement in the utilization of wagons and what is particularly pleasing, the unloading of their freight was speeded up. However, the minister stressed, the change for the better in the work of railway transportation which the country is awaiting has not yet occurred, unfortunately. To rectify this situation fundamentally, which involves speeding up the movement of freight flow, he further noted, it is necessary first of all to achieve a resolute and steady observance of state, plan, production and labor discipline in the transport industry.

The state of this discipline at present, as proved by figures given at the collegium, is far from meeting modern requirements. According to specialists, the main reason for this is the drop in the rate of freight transport and the disruptions to the timetable of movements for passenger trains.

The ministry and the central committee of the industry's trade union are working out and putting into practice measures to intensify discipline in transport. Decisive measures are being taken so that this powerful reserve of production can be set to work for the cause.

FINAL VOLUME OF MARX-ENGELS WORKS PUBLISHED

PM161141 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 83 Second Edition p 2

[Editorial Article on "The Completion of the Second Edition of the Works of K. Marx and F. Engels": "A Treasury of Revolutionary Thought"]

[Text] The 50th and final volume of the second edition of the works of K. Marx and F. Engels has been published. The completion of this edition, published by the Institute of Marxism-Leninism and the Political Literature Publishing House in accordance with a CPSU Central Committee Resolution is a major scientific and ideological-political event. In terms of the fullness of the reproduction of the works of the great theoreticians and teachers of the working class, the second edition surpasses all existing publications of their works.

The edition consists of 50 volumes (39 volumes in the main section and 11 supplementary volumes) and numbers 54 books (some volumes are in several parts). All the works of Marx and Engels have been published in amended and improved translations. Each volume is provided with an extensive academic reference system which makes it easier for readers to use the texts. In addition, several special reference volumes have been published.

The publication of an edition on such a scale was made possible by the Communist Party's tireless concern to collect, preserve, and study the literary heritage of the Marxist-Leninist classics. The search for manuscripts and letters of Marx and Engels, editions of their works published during their lifetime, and newspapers and books related to their work -- a search begun in the early years of Soviet power on V.I. Lenin's initiative and still continuing nowadays -- has yielded considerable results. Thus in comparison with the first edition of the works of K. Marx and F. Engels published between 1928 and 1947 in 28 volumes (33 books), the second edition includes about 800 new works and nearly 700 new letters. The "appendix" to the volumes contains hundreds of documents on the life and activity of Marx and Engels.

The publication of the works of the founders of Marxism in such broad volume meets the requirements of the contemporary world revolutionary process and the vast tasks of Communist creation which are being resolved by the Communist Party and the Soviet people. In the works of K. Marx, F. Engels, and V.I. Lenin the party sees a mighty arsenal of vivifying ideas and permanent models for the analysis of social phenomena, the comprehensive generalization of the experience in revolutionary struggle of the working class and the national liberation movement, and the scientific prediction of the future. No matter how much imperialism's minions try to call Marx's ideas obsolete or to set Marxism against Leninism -- its contemporary stage -- the entire course of modern history shows for all to see the invincibility and vital force of Marxist-Leninist theory as a united and continuously developing doctrine exerting an ever-increasing influence on mankind's fate.

Soviet Communists and all Marxist-Leninists regard the works of Marx, Engels, and Lenin as the unshakable methodological foundation and inexhaustible source of the creative development and successful practical implementation of revolutionary theory. They are also of tremendous significance for further raising the ideological-theoretical standards of Communist Party members, and for shaping a scientific world outlook in and increasing the consciousness of the masses. Marxist-Leninist doctrine, developed by Lenin in keeping with new historical conditions and constantly enriched by the revolutionary thought of our time, is a reliable lodestar for the peoples of our planet.

The works and letters of Marx and Engels included in the second edition reflect the development of Marxist doctrine covering over 50 years, from the period of its formation in the 1840s and ending in the mid-1980s, when Marxism had become the generally recognized ideological banner of the international workers' movement.

The reader will find all the major theoretical works of Marx and Engels in the edition -- "The German Ideology," "Das Kapital," "Anti-Duehring," "The Dialectics of Nature" and so forth -- together with the keynote documents of scientific communism -- the "Communist Manifesto," "The Critique of the Gotha Program" and so forth -- and their political pamphlets, numerous articles, transcriptions of their speeches, press interviews, statements, and extensive correspondence.

Even with their entire diversity of genres, all these works are linked by a profound ideological unity and a remarkable consistence and wholeness which V.I. Lenin noticed in Marx's doctrine. The second edition also gives the reader a complete idea of other characteristics of that teaching -- its capacity for constant improvement and its close link with revolutionary practice. Marx and Engels are not only leading scientific figures, they are also fervent revolutionaries, founders and leaders of international proletarian organizations -- the League of Communists and the fist international -- and masters of the strategy and tactics of proletarian struggle.

The edition's content reflects Marxism's three components -- dialectical and historical materialism, Marxist political economics and the theory of scientific communism -- in their inner organic link. Many works of Marx and Engels are also dedicated to the elaboration of a whole series of special areas of knowledge from dialectical-materialist stances -- the natural sciences, military matters, world history, the theory of the state and law, linguistics, literature and art, pedagogy, and problems of religion and atheism. In terms of its theme, the edition is a genuine encyclopedia of knowledge and demonstrates the powerful creative potential of Marxist thought.

The second edition reveals wide potential for the study of the very creative process of development by Marx and Engels of various aspects of their teaching. A whole series of preparatory materials are published: synopses of various books, plans, and preliminary drafts, and so forth. The reader will become acquainted for the first time with all the preliminary manuscript variants of that chief work of Marx, "Das Kapital" (Volumes 46-50) which will allow him to study the stages of its creation.

The publication of these variants is, however, far from being of merely historical and cognitive importance. Marx' economic manuscripts, like other works included in the edition, provide the key to the understanding of modern social processes, help to look for answers to questions which acutely disturb the present generation, and explain the continuity of the link between the lessons of the past and present reality in the liberation struggle.

In contemporary conditions the laws of the capitalist economy disclosed by Marx and Engels are operating in full measure. Not only is their general conclusion on the deepening of the contradictions of capitalism and its doom being confirmed, but so too are many other perspicacious descriptions of specific tendencies in the further evolution of the capitalist system. The analysis of imperialism was V.I. Lenin's immortal contribution, but Marx and Engels were able to discern certain of its embryonic signs. Marx, for example, as early as the 1850s, and Engels in the 1870s drew attention to the strengthening of the role of share capital and trusts, which were monopolizing whole production sectors. (see Vol 12, p 34; Vol 19, pp 221-222) In fragments from the French edition of Volume 1 of "Das Kapital" Marx predicted the deformation of the cycles of capitalist production and the reduction of the intervals between crises, (Vol 49, pp 224-225) which is confirmed by the state of the contemporary capitalist economy, which in the last decade alone has experienced three recessions.

The contemporary reader of the works of Marx and Engels is a living witness of the fulfillment of their teaching on the worldwide historical role of the working class which, under the leadership of a Marxist-Leninist party and in union with the broad masses of the working people is implementing a revolutionary transformation of society over a considerable part of the globe.

The thoughts of the founders of Marxism and their attitudes to the idea, developed subsequently by Lenin, on the possibility of liberated peoples' achieving socialism without passing through the capitalist stage, have proven to be historically substantiated.

The scientific predictions of Marx and Engels on the communist socioeconomic formation and its two phases -- socialism and communism, given specific form today in the teaching on developed socialism -- have in our time acquired a direct link with practice. Their notions of the increasingly extensive satisfaction of the material and spiritual needs of the masses of the working people and the blossoming of the human personality in the conditions of the new society are being fulfilled. Marx, predicting as it were the contemporary process of socialist integration, wrote in 1871 about the international coordination of social forms of production under socialism. (see Vol 17, p 553)

The founders of Marxism associated with the establishment of a socialist system not only the destruction of class antagonism and national inequality but also the sparing of mankind from bloody wars. They believed that as the workers movement grows, the forces capable of restraining the fomenters of the arms race and aggression will strengthen. Marx wrote prophetically in 1870 that "in opposition to the old society...a new society is given birth whose international principle will be PEACE, because every people will have the same master, labor." (Vol 17, p 5).

The second edition provides an exceptionally large amount of material for combating bourgeois ideology. The works of Marx and Engels reveal its historical roots and contain the classic examples of criticism of reactionary views and crushing reproofs to anticommunists. The edition is also an effective weapon for unmasking bourgeois and revisionist "Marxologists" who try to falsify the views of Marx and Engels and distort the history of Marxism.

The edition's materials show that Marx and Engels accorded great attention to the revolutionary movement in Russia. They drew a fundamental distinction between Tsarist Russia and progressive, revolutionary Russia; had great respect for the Russian people; admired the struggle of its best representatives against Tsarism; highly valued Russian science and culture; and "were filled," as V.I. Lenin noted; "with the most optimistic belief in the Russian revolution and its powerful worldwide significance." (Complete Works, Vol 15, p 247).

History has borne out these hopes. Russia was the first to lay the peoples' trail to socialism. It is no surprise that it is in the Soviet land, where the ideas of the founders of Marxism received their first practical implementation, that such large-scale work is being done to publish the works of Marx and Engels. The broad-scale publication of their works in the USSR helps to disseminate Marxism throughout the world.

let us note that the second Russian-language edition, translated in the Soviet Union in its entirety, including additional volumes into Ukrainian and in part into the languages of other peoples of the USSR, provided a model for the publication of the works of Marx and Engels in Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the CSSR, the SFRY, and Japan. On the basis of the second edition, the Institute of Marxism-Leninism and the "Progress" Publishing House, in conjunction with foreign publishing houses, are publishing the works of K. Marx and F. Engels in English and Italian.

The experience of the second Russian-language edition has been widely used during the work on the international complete collected works of K. Marx and F. Engels in the original language (Marx-Engels gesamtausgabe), prepared by the two fraternal institutes: The CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxsim-Leninism and the SED Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism.

The publication of the above-mentioned multi-volume editions eloquently demonstrates Marxism-Leninism's international character, its increasing role in the modern world, and the tremendous interest in Marxist-Leninist theory not only among Communists, but also among the broadest progressive circles.

While creatively resolving the new theoretical and political questions of the revolutionary struggle and of party and state building, the great Lenin considered it necessary to take advice from Marx and to turn to the works of the founders of scientific communism. Modern Marxist-Leninists, whom life confronts with complex new problems, constantly turn to the works of Marx, Engels, and Lenin. The second edition of the works of K. Marx and F. Engels, like V.I. Lenin's Complete Collected Works, provides broad access to a treasury of revolutionary thought and arms all fighters for communism, peace, social progress, and the happiness of all mankind with immortal ideas.

OBKOM PROMOTES 'NEGATIVE ASSESSMENT' OF LEADERS

PM181111 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian on 10 February publishes on page 2 a 1,200-word interview by correspondent L. Leontyeva with A. Vlasov, first secretary of the Checheno-Ingush Obkom, under the heading "Assessing According to Deeds," in which Vlasov describes the oblast's system of including "negative assessments" in personal reports on leaders who allow enterprises, ministries or departments under their control to lag behind. Vlasov notes that "the right to assess officials in their personal reports has been granted to CPSU gorkoms, raykoms and primary organizations. I emphasize: with respect to officials who fail to ensure the necessary standard of leadership." Agreeing with Leontyeva that this new approach means that leaders can no longer get away with merely noting omissions, but have to provide "a specific, businesslike reply as to when and how shortcomings will be eliminated," Vaslov goes on to discuss the obkom's recent decision to oblige gorkoms, raykoms and primary organizations to "create sociodemographic passposts for production collectives, primarily those which lag behind." However, he concludes, the negative assessment is not an end in itself: "Our main task is to help the leader to execute his duty and to encourage materially and morally the search for production reserves and the introduction of leading experience."

PRAVDA FEATURES ROMANOV 60TH BIRTHDAY GREETING

PM101151 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 7 February First Edition front-pages a message of congratulations to G.V. Romanov and the text of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree awarding him the title of Hero of Socialist Labor and the Order of Lenin, together with a head-and-shoulder photograph of Romanov. The message reads as follows:

"To Comrade Grigoriy Vasilyevich Romanov.

"The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers warmly congratulate you, a prominent figure in the Communist Party and the Soviet state, on your 60th birthday.

"We wish you, Grigoriy Vasilyevich, good health, long life and further fruitful work for the good of the Soviet people and for the sake of the triumph of the communism in our country.

"The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Council of Ministers."

ARMENIAN SSR 1982 PLAN RESULTS REPORTED

GF180514 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 30 Jan 83 pp 1, 2

[Text of Armenian SSR Central Statistical Administration report on the results of the fulfillment of the 1982 State Plan for Economic and Social Development]

[Text] In 1982 -- The year of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation -- social production and the people's well-being experienced further growth.

The main indicators of the country's economic and social development last year are characterized by the following figures:

	1982 as Percentage of 1981
National Income (produced)	103.5
Industrial output -- total including:	103.8
Production of means of production	103.3
Production of consumer goods	104.4
Agricultural output	97.7
Freight turnover, all types of transport	96.2
Commissioning of fixed capital	85
Capital investments	102
Number of workers and employees	101.8
Labor productivity:	
In industry	101.1
In agriculture (public-sector production)	100
In construction	102.8
In railroad transport	95.1
Profit in national economy	103
Real income per capita	101.5
Wage fund in national economy	103.6
Average money wage of workers and employees	100.8
Work payment for kolkhoz members in public-sector farming	98.5
Payments and benefits to population from social consumption funds:	
Total	104.9
Per capita	103.3
Retail trade turnover in state, cooperative and kolkhoz trade	96
Volume of sales of consumer services to population	108.3
Total area of housing commissioned	88.4

The implementation of scientific and technical programs continued. Scientific and technical achievements were introduced in all sectors of the national economy. Last year:

Models of types of machines, equipment, apparatuses, instruments and means of automation created	70
Mechanized flow and automated production lines installed at industrial enterprises	113
Sectors, shops and production facilities converted to comprehensive mechanization and automation	60
Automated systems for accounting, planning and control created	1
Including automated control systems for technological processes	1
Utilized in the national economy:	
Inventions	200
Rationalization proposals	over 19,000

Production efficiency increased. As a result of increased productivity in public-sector labor, the labor equivalent of 25,000 people was saved. National income increased by R324 million and totaled R6.03 billion (real prices). Over two-thirds of it was used for consumption, and taking into account expenditures on housing and sociocultural construction, four-fifths of the national income was spent directly on the people's well-being.

Industrial output compared with 1981 increased by R240 million and exceeded R6.6 billion (at enterprise wholesale prices as of 1 January 1982).

The volume of agricultural output in 1982 totaled R861 million.

Fixed capital worth more than R1.1 billion was commissioned.

The average number of workers and employees over the year in the national economy increased by 22,300 and totaled 1,255,000, while the number of kolkhoz members employed in kolkhozes' public-sector farming was 75,000.

I. INDUSTRY

The annual plan for the volume of output was fulfilled by 102 percent. The growth of production compared with 1981 was 3.8 percent. The figures for individual sectors of industry are given below:

	Production Volume of 1982 as Percentage of 1981
Electric power industry	97
Ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy	100.8
Chemical and petrochemical industry	99
Machine-building and metal works	110
Timber, wood processing and pulp and paper industry	104
Construction materials industry	101
Light industry	102
Food industry	104
Production of cultural, consumer and household goods	102

Labor productivity increased by 1.1 percent and 29 percent of the industrial production growth was obtained and profits increased.

The production activities of the ministries' production unions and enterprises are reflected in the following figures:

All-Union and Union-Republic and Republic Ministries and Departments	Percentage of Annual Plan for Output Volume Fulfillment	1982 as Percentage of 1981	
		Production Volume	Labor Productivity
Power and electrification	96	97	97
Petroleum refining and petrochemical industry	101	99.9	100.4
Chemical industry	100.9	99	98
Production of chemical fertilizers	104	88	89
Electrical equipment industry	104	109	108
Machine tools and tool-building industry	104	112	108
Instrument making, means of automation and control systems	103	109	105
Automotive industry construction, road and municipal machine-building	107	112	107
Machine-building for light and food industry and household appliances	104.8	108	98
Administration of nonferrous metallurgy	100.7	100.3	99.7
Timber and wood processing industry	103	107	106
Construction materials industry	100	104	102
Light industry	102	102	99.6
Food industry	105	105	105
Fruit and vegetable farming	100.3	105	105
Meat and dairy industry	102	101	101
Procurement	105	105	106
Industrial construction	101	105	104
Rural construction	103	109	104
Local industry	100.1	108	106

The machine-building production unions and enterprises of the union ministries and the ministries of timber and wood processing industry; construction materials industry, procurement; and industrial and rural construction, now utilize the system of planning and assessment to determine net output. The figures reflect this new system.

Technical and economic production indicators and the quality of industrial output has improved.

The category of top-quality output in the overall output volume totaled 18.7 percent. Production of more than 291 new types of articles was begun.

Production of the most important types of products was:

	Produced in 1982	1982 as Percentage of 1981
Electricity -- billion kilowatt-hours	13.5	94
Chemical fertilizers (in terms of 100 percent nutrients) -- thousand tons	71.6	86
Sulfuric acid -- thousand tons	159.7	109
Caustic soda -- thousand tons	61.7	97
Chemical fibers and yarns -- thousand tons	16.3	103
Electomotive equipment -- thousand kilowatts	1,036.2	97
Generators -- thousand kilowatts	1,673,6	107
Mobile electric motors -- thousand kilowatts	743.7	103
Automation instruments, means and their spare parts -- million rubles	120.8	109
Means and spare parts of computing technology -- million rubles	68.7	115
Centrifugal pumps -- thousand units	119.9	99
Power transformers -- thousand kilowatt-ampere	7,619	99
Lamps -- million units	187	99
Installation communications cables -- thousand km	249.1	91
Illumination wire -- thousand km	105.1	112
Precast concrete -- thousand cubic meters	1,245.7	98
Slates -- million standard tiles	85	105
Sewn goods -- million rubles	433	107

Knitted underwear and outer garments -- million articles	81.1	92
Hosiery -- million pairs	80.7	104
Carpets -- thousand square meters	3,257	104
Leather footwear -- million pairs	15.3	105
Meat -- total -- thousand tons	96.4	103.2
Sausage products -- thousand tons	22.6	104
Whole milk products in milk equivalent -- thousand tons	156.5	100.8
Cheese and white cheese -- thousand tons	25	102
Oil -- thousand tons	6.1	63
Confectionary -- thousand tons	35.4	113
Canned foods -- million standard cans	465.9	114
Mineral water -- million half-liters	280.9	101
Watches -- thousand	5,139.4	99.7
Various utensils -- (glass and crystal) -- million rubles	42.4	99.6
Furniture -- million rubles	77.2	107
Chinaware and earthenware -- million rubles	3.1	113
Consumers chemical goods -- million rubles	27.7	102

The annual plan has been overfulfilled for the production of instruments; means of computer technology; sulfuric acid; installation communications cables; and consumer products such as knitted vests, socks, leather footwear, confectionary, utensils (glass and crystal), furniture, and other articles.

At the same time there were shortcomings in industry's work. Production associations and enterprises of some sectors failed to fulfill the plans for total volume of output, labor productivity growth, reduction of costs, accumulation, and scientific and technical programs. The expansion of the production of a number of products has hindered due to the shortcomings in the organization of labor and material and technical supplies, and the irregular operation of transport.

The plans for chemical fertizilers, chemical fibers and yarns, precast concrete, carpets, mineral water and a number of other types of products was not fulfilled. The ministries responsible for electrotechnical industry, instrument building, the means of automation and control systems, timber and wood processing, construction materials, light and food industry as well as the production associations and enterprises of some other ministries, failed to fully ensure the delivery of products to consumers in accordance with the signed contracts and job orders.

II. AGRICULTURE

In order to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May 1982 plenum, under last year's complex weather conditions and on the basis of an increased material and technical base, the agricultural workers achieved production growth in the output of many commodities.

The plan for selling grain to the state was overfulfilled.

A total of 167,000 tons of (industrial) sugarbeet, 309,000 tons of potatoes, 471,000 tons of vegetables, and 459,000 tons of fruits and grapes were harvested.

The kolkhozes and sovkhozes are preparing seeds for fall sowing, repairing technical equipment, and transporting fertilizers. At the same time, this work is being performed slowly on a number of farms.

The size of productive livestock in all categories of farms was (thousand head):

	As of 1 January	
	1981	1982
Cattle	785.6	825.6
Cows	308.7	322.4
Hogs	244.3	265
Sheep and goats	2,256.2	2,187.8

The output from livestock can be seen in the following figures:

	1981	1982
Meat (carcass weight) thousand tons	93.4	96.4
Milk -- thousand tons	518.7	542.2
Eggs -- million	478.4	502.8
Wool (real weight) -- tons	4,685	4,756

The state's purchases of livestock products totaled:

	1981	1982
Livestock and poultry -- thousand tons	103.8	105.3
Hoof weight	66	66.2
Carcass weight	313.4	317
Eggs -- million	301.9	317.5
Wool (accounting weight) -- tons	5,017	5,005

The plan for purchasing milk, eggs and wool was overfulfilled and the plan for purchasing livestock and poultry underfulfilled.

The gross income of kolkhozes totaled R163.7 million.

Agroindustrial integration and interfarm cooperation developed. In 1982 there were 76 interfarm enterprises and organizations, 6 production agroindustrial and agricultural associations and enterprises operating in the republic.

With a view to improving the management of agriculture and the related sectors, rayon agroindustrial associations are being formed.

The production of agricultural output increased in industrial, construction and other enterprises' subsidiary farms, as well as on the small tracts of land individuals tend. The practice of fattening livestock under contracts between kolkhozes and sovkhozes and citizens is expanding.

About R333 million in capital investments were allocated to the development of agroindustrial sectors, including R248.7 million to agricultural, with R250.1 million of this sum being allocated for the construction of production installations in this sector.

Agriculture was supplied with 1,538 trucks and specialized vehicles, 1,299 tractors with a total capacity of 87,000 horsepower, 160 grain combines, 24 potato-harvesting combines, 257 silage-harvesting combines, 1,022 plow tractors, 20 grinding machines, 649 cultivators, 342 sowers, 700 mowers, 482 chemical fertiziler sprinklers, 80 organic fertilizer sprinklers, 8 aggregates for the preparation of grass meal, 11 machines producing vitamin grass meal, 354 pickup balers, and 64 grain straining machines.

The following quantities were supplied (in terms of 100-percent nutrients): 86,700 tons of chemical fertilizers and 8,000 tons of chemical feed additives.

The plan for the supply of the basic technical equipment, chemical fertilizers and chemical feed addivites was fulfilled. The supply of sowers, mowers, and a number of different types of machines was underfulfilled.

III. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Freight transport and freight turnover for various types of transport resulted in the following figures:

	Carried out in 1982	1982 as percentage of 1981
Freight transport -- million tons:		
Rail transport (shipment)	18.6	101
General-purpose automotive transport	88.6	107
Freight turnover, million ton-kilometers:		
Rail transport	5,202	93
General-purpose automotive transport	1,695	108

Freight turnover for all types of transport totaled 7.275 billion ton-kilometers, and passenger turnover reached 7,639 billion passenger-kilometers and increased by 2.9 percent.

Railroad transport overfilled the plan for the shipment of freight by 2.5 percent. At the same time, the average daily plan for unloading rail cars was not filfilled and the labor productivity of workers compared to that of 1981 decreased.

General-purpose automotive transport overfilled the targets for freight shipment and passenger turnover. The volume of centralized shipments increased 9.3 percent, passenger transport 3.4, and paid taxicab journeys 4 percent.

Air transport overfilled the plans for passenger carriage, passenger turnover, the total volume of shipments and aviation services for sectors of the national economy. A total of 1,3 million passengers were transported. Chemical spraying operations by aircrfat on farmland and forests were carried out over 238,000 hectares.

In the various types of transport, there were a substantial number of empty runs and above-norm stoppages during loading operations.

The communications enterprises fulfilled the plan for the volume of output and achieved a 7 percent growth.

In accordance with the targets, there was an increase in the intercity telephone network, in the capacity of telegraph exchanges, data transmission centers, and urban and rural telephone centers. The network of radio broadcasting and television stations was expanded; over 3.18 million of the republic's inhabitants are able to view television broadcasts.

IV. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

In 1982, large-scale reconstruction and retooling work were carried out in the existing enterprises. A large number of apartment blocks, schools, perschool institutions, consumer services enterprises and other sociocultural projects were commissioned.

In regard to machine-building, the "Hayelektraluys" production association was assigned the task of manufacturing R5.2 million worth of products; the Leniakan (tarpnamamlakayin) instruments factory with R1.7 million worth of products as well as developing 3 completely automated lines; the Yerevan water instruments factory with R1.8 million worth of products; the Shahnazar lathes network factory with 43 million worth of products; the Yerevan "Electrashargich" plant with 59,000 electric motors; the Charendzhavan rail cars factory with 5,000 rail cars; and the Leninakah lathes factory with 129 (tarpnamamlakayin) machines.

In the chemical industry the production of 18,000 tons of synthetic resins and plastics of the BSHV-N trademark was assigned to the "Polyvinyladzhetat" production association, 40,000 tons of chloroprene to the "Nayirid" chemical production union, and so forth.

In the timber and wood processing industry, the production of R6 million worth of furniture was assigned to the Leninakan furniture factory and so forth.

In light industry, the plan to produce 18.8 million pieces of knitted underwear, 2.1 million knitted vests, and 2 million pairs each of socks and leather footwear was fulfilled. Over 30,000 spindles were installed in the various enterprises.

In agriculture production, chicken processing plants handled 504,000 laying hens and 0.3 million fryers; greenhouses produced over 6 hectares of produce; mechanized storage centers handled 21,100 tons of chemical fertilizers, chemicals and lime; and grain elevators stored 137,400 cubic meters of silage and hay.

Some 6,400 hectares of land was irrigated and 2,800 hectares of drained land was put under cultivation.

Capital investments in the national economy from all sources totaled R1.245 billion.

Total commodity construction output in 1982 amounted to R589 million. Contract work fulfilled by state construction and installation organizations increased by 1.1 percent, while that done by interfarm construction organizations increased by 31.3 percent.

Labor productivity increased by 2.8 percent.

The introduction of progressive construction organization and work methods continued; and the use of productive construction materials and substances expanded.

However, the necessary concentration of capital investments was still not achieved. The uncompleted construction compared to the annual volume of capital investments has increased. In individual sectors, an increase in the scale of the retooling and modernization of the existing enterprises was effectively carried out. The plans for increasing production capacities and fixed capital were underfulfilled. Certain construction ministries allowed the volume of construction and installation work to decrease below that of 1981, and did not carry out the plans for increasing labor productivity. In many instances, the quality of work was very low.

V. RAISING THE PEOPLE'S MATERIAL AND CULTURAL STANDARD OF LIVING

The implementation of measures set for the 11th 5-Year Plan for social development and enhancement of people's well-being continued in 1982.

The plans for the growth of the average monthly wages of workers and employees, work bonuses of kolkhoz members, and public consumption funds were fulfilled.

The average monthly wages of workers and employees in the national economy totaled R169.3 as compared to R116.3 in 1981.

The pay of kolkhoz members reached R163.

The population received from public consumption funds payments and concessions totaling R1,189 billion, or R55 million more than that in 1981. Taking these payments and concessions into consideration, the wages of workers and employees increased from R225.5 to R230.3 a month.

The introduction of long-service bonuses to those employed in contract construction organizations continued. Additional concessions were established for a number of categories of people employed in the light and fish industries.

Measures were implemented in all sectors of the national economy to ensure safety and improve working conditions and make better use of time spent at work.

Measures were implemented to increase state aid to families with children. The free supply of textbooks to public schools continued. As of 1 September 1982, students in the eight and ninth grades also received them in addition to those in first through seventh grades.

Internal state bonds were repaid.

Workers increased their savings deposits in banks by over R20 million.

Retail commodity turnover in state, cooperative and kolkhoz trade exceeded R2.8 billion.

Growth in the sale of individual commodities in state ABD cooperative trade can be seen in the following figures:

	Sold in 1982 as Percentage of 1981
Bakery products	100
Meat and meat products	99
Fish and fish products	119
Animal oil	88
Vegetable oil	110
Margarine	133
Whole milk products	100
Cheese	99
Eggs	105
Sugar	100
Confectionary	105
Tea	109
Potatoes	111
Vegetables	110
Fruit and citrus fruits	104
Clothing, underwear and textiles	100
Knitted goods	98

Hoisery	98
Leather footwear	100
Chinaware, earthenware and glassware	100
Soap and detergents	92
Furniture	108
Refrigerators	98
Those with a capacity of 200 cubic decimeters and more	101
Washing machines	100
Cameras	102
Radio receivers	103
Television sets	110
Color sets	120
Tape recorders	106
Bicycles and mopeds	101
Motocycles and motor scooters	100
Passenger cars	100

However, the population's increasing demand for certain foodstuffs and industrial goods was still not fully satisfied.

The volume of sales of consumer services to the population increased by 8.3 percent as compared to that of 1981, including 21.2 percent in rural areas. The 1982 plan was fulfilled by 103 percent, and 112.5 percent in rural areas.

From all sources of finance 15,300 new apartment units were constructed with a total area of 963,000 square meters, of which 180,000 square meters are located in rural areas. The housing for 98,000 people were improved. In the republic as a whole, new construction projects included general education schools with places for 15,400 students; preschool institutions with 4,900 places; and 100-bed hospitals, and outpatient and polyclinic establishments for 1,500 consultations per shift. General education schools with 8,600 places for students were constructed in rural areas.

At the same time, the plan for the construction of apartment blocks and sociocultural projects (apart from schools) was underfulfilled in the republic as a whole as well as by individual ministries and departments.

Many residential sites were renovated. The conservation program was fulfilled. State capital investments for this purpose totaled R16.8 million. Measures were implemented to improve the air and protect the water of the cities and industrial centers. At the same time a number of enterprises did not fulfill the plan to begin conservation projects.

Reforestation work was carried out on 7,000 hectares of state forests. Tree saplings were planted in over 4,000 hectares, and forest reformation work was carried out on 67,000 hectares. Land reclamation was also carried out.

Public education, science and culture have been further developed. More than 1,272,000 people received various forms of education, out of which 591,500 attended public schools; 50,700 attended vocational and technical educational establishments (including 32,800 at secondary schools); 48,100 attended specialized secondary institutions; and 59,200 attended institutions of higher learning.

In 1982, 62,500 young men and women received secondary education, including 8,600 who continued to work and attended school parttime.

There were 132,000 students in extended-day schools and groups, which is 5 percent more than the previous year. More than 142,000 children attended permanent preschool establishments. Seasonal children's establishments served about 2,000 children.

The number of scientific workers stood at 20,000. A total of 11,800 people have been admitted to institutions of higher learning and 16,100 to specialized secondary establishments; of these 6,800 or 24 percent were admitted to evening and correspondence departments of technical colleges.

In 1982, 13,000 specialists began working in the national economy, including 7,000 who had received higher education and 6,000 who has received specialized secondary education.

During the year the vocational and technical educational institutions trained over 34,000 qualified young workers and admitted approximately 36,000 people, 12,800 of which entered secondary vocational and technical educational institutes. Over 520,000 people were instructed in new trades and increased their qualifications.

At the end of last year in the republic there were 1,925,000 people who had received higher and secondary (complete and partial) education. That is, 88 percent of the population has received some type of an education.

Readers are being served by more than 1,380 mass libraries which have a book stock of 21 million volumes.

Approximately 10 million copies of books and brochures were published in 1982.

There were about 855 film centers operating and movie attendance during the year totaled 29.4 million.

The medical services and organized leisure activities expanded. The number of doctors in all specialties increased and their total was 11,300.

The number of places in sanatoriums, boarding houses, rest homes and tourist facilities increased. A total of 526,500 workers and their family members were treated and convalsced in those institutions. Of that number 384,700 were tourists and 2.8 million excursions were organized for them.

Approximately, 350,000 children and adolescents spent the summer in Pioneer camps and in school camps, tourist excursion bases or dacha localities with children facilities.

Measures were implemented to further enhance the mass appeal of physical culture and sports, and approximately 360,000 holders of the "Ready for Labor and Defense" badges were trained. The population of Armenian SSR on 1 January 1983 totaled 3,22,300 people.

NEW RAYON AGROINDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS ORGANIZED

Agriculture Ministry Official Commentary

LD201440 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 20 Feb 83

[From the "Time, Events and People" program]

[Text] Here is expert commentary on a current topic. The agroindustrial associations set up by decision of the May 1982 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee have begun work. The first steps of their activity and the tasks they are called upon to tackle are described at our microphone by Vladimir Semenovich Prosin, chief of the agroindustrial Integration Interdepartmental Cooperation Main Administration of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture.

[Begin recording] At this time in the country 3,154 rayon and 156 oblast, kray and republican agroindustrial associations have been set up, and have now begun to implement their practical activity to further develop agricultural production and other related branches after coordinating their activities. The fundamentally new system for managing all the branches of the agroindustrial complex is designed to ensure the fulfilment of the country's Food Program. It contains a qualitatively new organizational and economic mechanism of management providing for the unified and coordinated administration of enterprises and organizations involved in the agroindustrial associations, perfection of the economic relations between them and creation of material incentives for the end product of labor.

The chief task of the Rayon Agroindustrial Association Council is to direct and coordinate the activity of the branches of the agroindustrial complex primarily in order to develop kolkhoz and sovkhoz production. Familiarization with the work of local agroindustrial associations in the first stage of their activity shows that many of the organizational and economic levers with which they have been equipped are being used skillfully. They have tackled the immediate matters of preparing for and conducting the spring sowing campaign and of completing the overwintering of cattle in a business-like manner.

We know that our country is a big one and it is rare for favorable conditions to exist everywhere, in all zones. But, at the same time, we know that there are many farms which obtain stable and high results even in difficult conditions. First of all, these farms as a rule have good seeds, mostly top-quality; they have mastered crop rotation and they have introduced advanced systems of land cultivation. All operations are done on schedule and are done well. Therefore, the task of the rayon agroindustrial associations is to make the experience of such farms available to all, paying especial attention to seed preparation, good-quality seed storage and to mastering crop rotation.

Here, clearly, one cannot accept as normal when in Azerbaijan, for example, more than half of the crop rotation has not yet been mastered and around half of the crop rotation has not been mastered in the Uzbek SSR. Therefore, the task of the rayon agroindustrial associations in these republics is to pay the necessary attention to ensure in the future that crop rotation is mastered. There is quite a considerable reserve for increasing agricultural output. [end recording]

IZVESTIYA Editorial

PM210905 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Agroindustrial Association"]

[Text] The first work month of the third year of the 5-year plan has ended.

Rural workers, like all Soviet people, have stiven to make their contribution to implementing the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenum decisions and have worked intensively at fulfilling the Food Program.

The pace of preparations for the spring sowing increased in January. On the whole, the wintering of cattle is proceeding successfully -- in many regions there have been tangible increases in milk purchases and livestock weight gains in comparison with last year. January was also the first month of work by agroindustrial associations -- the new local-level organs. Recently the CPSU Central Committee heard a report on certain questions related to the creation of those associations. The appropriate organs were assigned to ensure the efficient organizations and coordination of the work of the new administration system.

The "Sample Regulations on the Rayon Agroindustrial Association" published in the press say in particular that the rayon agroindustrial association has been formed to manage agriculture and other spheres of the agroindustrial complex, and to increase the economic independence and initiative of kolkhozes and other enterprises and organizations belonging to the association. The rayon agroindustrial association is called upon to coordinate their activity and galvanize efforts for the successful fulfillment of the Food Program. Rayon agroindustrial associations are created by decision of Soviet rayispolkoms. The role of local soviets in improving the management of the agroindustrial complex is increased.

To achieve high output results it is necessary to make full use of the rights and potential granted to the rayon association in the sphere of planning and improving intersector production and economic ties, the sale of agricultural produce, capital construction, and material and technical supply and in questions of pay, finance, credit, accounting and reporting.

As the CPSU Central Committee Politburo stresses, rayon agroindustrial association councils must emphasize the raising of the responsibility of kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the fulfillment of the state plans for the procurement of arable and livestock produce. In this matter great significance is to be attached to the efficient use of each agricultural unit's production potential, the observance of the policy of thrift and economy, the consolidation of autonomous financing and the introduction of progressive forms of work organization and payment.

The Rayon Agroindustrial Association Council includes leaders of all sectors of the agroindustrial complex, but special responsibility for resolving the main issues of the implementation of the Food Program is placed on the organizers of agricultural production. It is they who form the majority on the Rayon Agroindustrial Association Council, they who have the decisive say, as it were, and commensurate responsibility.

The formation of the rayon association apparatus is now in progress and their work style is being formulated. Rayon agroindustrial associations are being formulated. Rayon agroindustrial associations are designed to overcome departmental separatism [razobshchennost], to raise the economic independence of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, to rationally combine the territorial and sector principle of management and to reduce the total number of management apparatuses.

Local soviets are to see to it that experts released by the restructuring of management organs remain in agroindustrial complex sectors and are employed directly on kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Substantial rights are also granted to oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) agroindustrial associations.

Possessing substantial and broad rights, agroindustrial associations must make skillful use of them, avoiding bureaucratic administration and the imposition on kolkhozes and sovkhozes of recommendations on questions falling within the competence of farm leaders and experts.

The restructuring of the management of the agroindustrial complex from bottom to top presupposes that more rational use will be made of the tremendous resources channeled by the state into the development of agriculture and the entire agroindustrial complex.

The CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums paid great attention to strengthening the kolkhoz and sovkhozes economy and to improving their production activity. Since the New Year, as is well known, purchase prices have been raised for agricultural produce. Price supplements are being introduced for produce sold to the state by farms making little profit or even a loss. To improve the financial status of kolkhozes making little profit or a loss it has been decided to write off a considerable proportion of their debt arising from previous bank loans. One of the main tasks of agroindustrial associations is to make careful use of the great potential offered to them. This will require the improvement of the economic mechanism and of intersector ties. Normal kolkhozes and sovkhozes must ensure the appropriate level of profitability.

It is important to make the best possible use right now of the tremendous economic potential that has been created and, above all, of land -- agriculture's material basis. After all, the intensiveness of production depends to a decisive degree on land fertility, the development of crop rotation and the introduction of scientifically validated systems of arable farming.

Success is also greatly dependent on the work of sectors which process agricultural raw materials and serve agriculture. It is necessary to firmly eliminate shortcomings and negative phenomena in organizing the storage and processing of arable and livestock produce, and in kolkhoz and sovkhoz services. The technical equipment of agroindustrial complex sectors must be improved perceptibly right away in 1983. The state finds the potential for this but, unfortunately, some ministries and departments are insufficiently active in their assimilation of the resources allocated to them. Agricultural workers' claims on machine builders remain high. The productiveness and reliability of many types of equipment still do not meet present-day requirements. The question of the quality of fertilizers, construction materials and mixed feed is also acute.

The implementation of the Food Program now requires resolute action at all levels of the agroindustrial complex and mutually interested efforts by ministries and departments, with the active and competent coordination of those efforts by soviets and the agroindustrial complex's new management organs. Such is the demand of the party and of life. A real contribution to this work is to be made right now, during the wintering of livestock and the spring sowing. The importance and responsibility of the tasks must fill the thoughts of every agroindustrial association worker and every worker on whom the resolution of the food problem and the improvement of Soviet people's prosperity depends.

PROBLEMS IN SPRING FIELD WORK PREPARATION NOTED

LD162242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are preparing for spring. We have been told by the USSR Minister of Agriculture that the machine operators of Estonia, Bryansk, Poltava, and Tashkent Oblasts, who initiated competition for the preparation of equipment, are successfully meeting their pledges. In the country as a whole, the rate of servicing plows, cultivators and other implements needed for sowing is satisfactory. However, the preparation of equipment for fodder production, irrigation, application of mineral fertilizer, and plant protection is going slowly at present. Checks have shown that standards of repair are often not adhered to, both at kolkhozes and sovkhozes and at the enterprises of Selkhoztekhnika. The readiness of powerful tractors has not improved markedly. At present more than 30,000 of them cannot be used for work because of a lack of spare parts of various kinds. Delivery of fuel to farms is also slow. At present, kolkhozes and sovkhozes in all areas are beginning to cross-check their readiness for spring work.

GORSHKOV ON ARMED FORCES 65TH ANNIVERSARY

LD221346 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0715 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Speech by Fleet Admiral of the Soviet Union Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR deputy minister of defense and commander in chief of Soviet Naval Forces, on the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces; date and place of address not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Esteemed comrades. On 23 February, the Soviet people and its Armed Forces will solemnly mark the traditional holiday, the day of the Soviet Army and Navy. I would like to heartily congratulate on this holiday the servicemen of the Armed Forces, workers in our industry, scientists and designers, and all working people who by their unflagging labor multiply the economic and defense might of our state.

The glorious history of the Soviet Armed Forces, which began 65 years ago, is unbreakably linked with the name of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, to whom belongs outstanding merit in laying the basis of the military program of the proletarian revolution and of the defense doctrine of the socialist fatherland.

The anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy is being marked in an atmosphere of great political enthusiasm evoked by the celebration of the 60th anniversary of formation of the USSR and the peoplewide struggle to implement the decisions of the 26th party congress and the May and November 1982 plenums of our party's Central Committee. The working people of our country, honoring the armed defenders of the motherland, give due credit to their heroic feats performed in the name of the freedom and independence of the socialist state.

The first harsh trial for the Soviet Armed Forces was the years of the civil war and of foreign military intervention, when the question of whether Soviet power was to be or not to be was being resolved with special acuteness. In incredibly complex conditions, the Red Army, poorly equipped and shod but strong in its revolutionary spirit, defeated enemy forces which were superior in numbers.

Generalizing the experience of the civil war, Vladimir Ilich Lenin especially singled out the high level of ideological consciousness which the Communists managed to foster in the soldiers of the revolution. He observed that everyone who took weapons in his hands and came to the defense of the young republic of the soviets knew that he was defending his fatherland.

The Soviet Army and Navy displayed boundless fidelity to Leninist ideas about defense of the socialist motherland in the battles of the Great Patriotic War. Making a perfidious attack on our country, the leadership of fascist Germany reckoned to smash the USSR's Armed Forces, to put an end to the land of socialism, and thus to clear the path to world domination. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, the Soviet people and its Armed Forces at that time displayed unprecedented steadfastness and courage. They not only withstood the blows of the strongest army of the capitalist world, but utterly smashed the troops of the fascist hordes. This year is the 40th anniversary of outstanding victories on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War such as the Battles of Stalingrad and Kursk, the victorious battle on the banks of the Dnepr, and the lifting of the blockade of Leningrad. They were the start of mass expulsion of the Hitlerite invaders from Soviet soil. Despite desperate resistance, the enemy was destroyed in his own lair, and surrendered unconditionally.

In the battles of the Great Patriotic War, our Navy resolved many tasks in assisting the Soviet Army in defense and attack, waged battle with the enemy's forces in the maritime theaters of military action, and exerted no small influence on the course of the armed struggle on the land fronts. The Navy totallly fulfilled its duty to the motherland.

Almost 38 years have passed since the end of the Great Patriotic War, during which time the Soviet people, having healed the wounds of war, have undertaken gigantic work to fulfil plans to step up the economic and defensive might of our motherland, and they have achieved outstanding successes in this. Throughout this time, the CPSU and the Soviet Government have carried on active work to preserve peace and not permit a new war. The fact that you and I have lived in peaceful conditions for these 38 years is primarily the result of this active work by the party and government to put its peace program forth in the international arena.

At the same time these measures of the party have not met with support from the leadership of the main capitalist countries of the West. Those countries have gone on from the practices of the cold war in the 1950's to overt preparations for a military attack on the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community. They are developing more and more new doctrines for waging war and expanding the production of material means for waging it. The scale of this military hysteria has grown especially in recent times, with the arrival of the new administration headed by President Reagan as leader of the United States of America and Weinberger as head of the Pentagon, who day after day pour forth on the ears of their listeners buckets of filth [ushaty gryazi] against the Soviet Union. Not since the cold war has such an arrogant imperialist policy, reckoning on the use of force to gain world domination, been displayed by the United States as frankly as today.

Broad-scale military preparations by aggressive imperialist forces are accompanied by a shameless campaign of slander. Altogether, the United States actions are directed towards creating the conditions for a struggle to annihilate socialism as a social system.

The use of the world's seas is also subordinated to the interests of gaining world domination: An ever-growing quantity of the Unites States' naval force is concentrated in various regions of them, and nuclear missile potential continues to be stepped up. A large-scale program of construction of new ships and weapons systems is also being implemented for these purposes.

All of this considerably complicates the military-political situation and intensifies tension and the military threat, primarily the nuclear threat. Such a policy, based on aspirations of attaining military superiority over the Soviet Union, has no prospects and is capable only of intensifying the threat of war.

Our country is in favor of talks on disarmament, of the search for a healthy, acceptable basis of solving the most acute international problems. At the same time, as noted by the 26th congress of our party, the international situation obliges us not to let issues of strengthening our country's defense might slip from the field of view. The USSR's love of peace not only does not exclude, but on the contrary, presupposes constant concern for the security of our motherland. At the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed: The Politburo has considered and does consider it a matter of obligation to give the Army and Navy all they need, especially in the current international situation.

Thanks to unflagging concern by the Communist Party and the selfless labor of Soviet people, our Army and Navy are equipped with the most modern weapons, including nuclear missiles, and with mighty combat technology. The organizational structure of the Armed Forces, the system of cadre training, the theory and practice of training and education of troops, and military science are at the level of contemporary military requirements.

And our ocean-going naval fleet occupies a worthy place in the system of the Soviet Armed Forces, and is capable of defending our motherland from aggression from the seas. To this end the Navy has at its disposal nuclear submarines and modern surface vessels of various classes, armed with missiles and equipped with the latest apparatus for navigation, control and (?communications). Naval missile-carrying (?aviation) is also an important means of hitting the enemy.

Prolonged ocean voyages have become the basic school of professional and combat training for Soviet sailors. On long voyages, crew coordination is perfected; equipment and weapons are mastered; combat skills, moral-political and psychological tempering improved; and new, effective techniques and methods of action in sea battles are sought.

Our people rightly consider the creation of a mighty ocean-going naval fleet as one of the most outstanding labor victories. And on the day of celebration of the anniversary of the Army and Navy, we express our gratitude to scientists and designers, workers and engineers of the shipbuilding and other industries for their labor to equip the Army and Navy with modern weapons and technical means.

Soviet servicemen persistently master new technology and weapons, and are profoundly aware that the situation in the world demands discipline of the highest order from every serviceman, exceptional conscientiousness and organization, and maintenance of firm procedure according to the regulations.

A new patriotic movement is gaining strength day by day in the Army and Navy: socialist competition with the slogan: Enhance Vigilance! Reliably Ensure the Security of the Motherland! The initiators are the front-ranking collectives of servicemen of all branches of the Armed Forces. In the Navy, this is the nuclear missile-carrying submarine of the Red Banner Pacific Fleet commanded by Captain 1st Rank (Samokhvalov).

Soviet sailors, together with the men of other branches of the USSR's Armed Forces, are closely united around the Leninist party and its Central Committee, and are doing all they can to ensure that in a complex international situation a high level of combat readiness is constantly maintained, and that every serviceman is ready to fulfill with honor his sacred duty to defend the motherland and the countries of the socialist community.

Congratulations on the holiday just beginning, dear comrades.

SOKOLOV ON MILITARY'S 'DEFENSIVE PURPOSES'

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[Text] The military might of the Soviet Union is designed for defensive purposes; this stated Marshal Sokolov, first deputy defence minister. He granted an interview to TASS news agency in connection with the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army, to be marked later this week. Marshal Sokolov recalled that the Army had been established to defend the gains of the socialist revolution. It has been a guard of peace and socialism since then. As a result of the growth of the economic potential of the Soviet Union and other socialist community countries, and the strength of their defence alliance, humanity has not suffered from disasters of a world war for almost 40 years. The Soviet military doctrine, Marshal Sokolov said, is purely defensive, and the pledge of the Soviet Union not to be the first to use nuclear arms confirms this.